THE AWARD-WINNING INDEPENDENT: EDITOR OF THE YEAR, CORRESPONDENT OF THE YEAR

# THEINDEPENDENT

ANET GELDOF DON'T STAND BY YOUR MAN, WE THINK THE WORLD OF SIR BOB IN THE FRIDAY REVIEW



# Boost for the euro as Lafontaine exits in German power struggle

OSKAR LAFONTAINE, the Ger- By IMRE KARACS man Finance Minister dubbed "Europe's most dangerous man" in the British tabloid press, resigned yesterday after apparently losing a power struggle against Chancellor Gerhard Schröder.

The departure of \*Red friend and foe alike, is certain to herald an abrupt policy shift ited with more staying power. in Germany, with repercussions or the balance of power in Europe. Mr Lafontaine represented old-fashioned socialist values, whereas Mr Schröder is flattered by comparisons to Tony Blair. For "New Labour", ad "New Centre" – the ill-aned slogau which propelled in to victory in last Septem-

ber's elections. Germany's recent tempestuous relations with Europe are likely to improve dramatically. Berlin holds the EU presidency and Mr Lafontaine had antagonised the British government by repeatedly calling for "tax-harmonisation" in Eu-

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rope. Mr Lafontaine's heavy taxation policies have shaken confidence in the euro and were in part responsible for yester-day's failure to radically reform the Common Agriculture Policy. Mr Lafontaine alienated felplans to create a new world financial order based on fixed ex-Achange rates. And he irritated other EU countries by striding Vacross the Continent, issuing commands to the European

nance ministers. Mr Lafontaine, who has been rumoured to be coveting Priob of President of the Euas Chairman of the German Sorial Democratic Party. In his abnave a freer hand in implementing economic policies opeading figure of the left.

Central Bank and fellow fi-

in Berlin

pected. Mr Lafontaine, who Oskar", as he was known to survived an assassination attempt in 1990, had been cred-According to a terse statement issued through a spokesman, Mr Schröder was "surprised" by Mr Lafontaine's action, regretted it and thanked him for all his good work.

That is not quite the version that leaked to the press after an extraordinarily bitter cabinet meeting on Wednesday night. the Chancellor castigated several ministers for pushing policies that did not enjoy the support of the voters. He was particularly scathing about that way the German business community was affronted by Mr

According to ministers attending that meeting, the Chancellor warned his leftist colleagues against putting too great a burden on business. Last week he received an open letter from managers of 22 of Germany's biggest concerns, complaining of Mr Lafontaine's tax reforms. Insurance companies, in particular, threatened to move their operations out of Germany and to stop buying German government bonds.

At Wednesday night's stormy cabinet session. Mr Schröder read a litany of economic policies which had gone wrong. He lambasted the tax reforms which appeared to threaten the creation of new jobs, and took a side-swipe at the Greens' efforts to bump up low Socialists in Paris with his fuel prices and tighten the law on car emissions.

have told his colleagues.

He was scathing about Mr Lafontaine's plans to inflict punitive taxes on the nuclear industry, just as the government was trying to negotiate a deal wan Commission, also quit to phase out nuclear power Mr Lafontaine had proposed to tax the utilities' financial resence, Mr Schröder is likely to serves set aside for the closure of nuclear plants. Mr Schröder is reported to have described cosed by Mr Lafontaine, the the move as "a strategic error". The government's chief port," he added.

Although tensions had been rising between the German Chancellor and his powerful rivai, last night's announcement was completely unex-

According to these accounts, Lafontaine's tax reforms.

"There will come a point where I will no longer take responsibility for such a policy," Mr Schröder is reported to



Oskar Lafontaine, the German Finance Minister, whose departure heralds a policy shift by Bonn

spokesman, Uwe-Karsten Heye, yesterday confirmed that the Chancellor had ordered all ministers to check all new policies "for any negative effects on the economy". "All problems have to be viewed realistically and interests weighed so that the coelition keeps its majority sup-

culminating in an unexpected defeat for the Social Democrats and Greens at regional elec-

tions in Hesse. He is acutely aware of the sentiment on the street, which held his government in contempt but awarded him good

tled by a series of setbacks, business-friendly Social De- The "alliance for jobs" between stunned by the "business revolt" of recent weeks. Through-Schröder managed to get ahead by cutting deals, espe-

cially with business. But the government has an-

Mr Schröder has been rat- marks for style, As the most tagonised the business classes. mocrat Chancellor ever, he was employers, employees and the government was getting nowhere, unemployment was out his political career, Mr rising, and the Germany econ-

Reuters

change.

omy was spinning out of control. As in September last year. the country was ready for

## Mother, call us!

ecutive, and Sir John Quinton. vere shown the door by the 20 remiership dub chairmen as sign of their anger over con-rank-and-file membership. racts with Sam Chisholm and

In what has become a wintors, Mr Leaver and Sir John wo former executives of the follow Graham Kelly and Keith Wiseman, their Football Association equivalents, and Jim Farry, former chief resigning in the face of over-

David Chance, who were en-major posts in British football miershin. isted to help with the next administration as well as that It was an attempt to manage

administration continues to hurch from crisis to crisis.



Sir John have been punished as much for their methods as their indgement.

the next wave of television nepeared to be something of a coup, but it was then revealed that their contracts were potentially worth millions to them. Each is reportedly due to receive a £1.8m consultancy fee plus incentive payments that could total more than £50m.

There was also disquiet over Mr Chisholm's links with Tottenham Hotspur - a club Mr Leaver has supported for 40 years and upon whose board he once serveri.

It is thought there was an un-

the Premier League through Leaver and Sir John resigned. But it was not just this deal personalities, particularly between Mr Leaver and the more forthright club chairmen. Mr Leaver never quite managed to hide the superior manner acquired in a long career at the Bar, and that inevitably grated with the chib chairmen, a body of largely self-made men with

## Celebrations over exit of 'bogeyman'

BOTTLES OF champagne were opened in Downing Street last night to celebrate the departure of "Red Oskar". It was not the only cele-

bration. The confrontational German Finance Minister was not popular in other European capitals. Officials at the European Central Bank had hated the crass way he tried to pressure them into cutting interest rates. And the financial markets were simply jubilant, sending the euro soaring from its embarrassing record lows within

surprise resignation. His biggest fans were, perhaps, Britain's Eurosceptics. Mr Lafontaine was their aspiring to be an economic favourite bogeyman, his push for tax harmonisation within Europe giving them the chance to argue that Brussels wanted to pile more taxes on to the UK. In truth, Red Oskar was more isolated within Europe than he seemed, and h. is unlikely to garner enough support to become the next President of the Euro- Chancellor, is no Tony Blair,

Despite the apparently warm relations between him and Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the French Fmance Minister, the Frenchman has little genuine sympathy for Mr Lafontaine's old-style Keynesian economic views.

Certainly, these views were not shared by the European Central Bank, with which he picked a damaging public Germany needed fundamen-

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he responded by trying to bully the ECB into an interest rate cut. The euro could not have had a worse start.

The stimulus of a reduction in borrowing costs in Euroland is now more likely to go ahead. It will allow the EU. power to rival the US to shoulder a share of the responsibility for keeping the world economy out of recession.

More fundamentally, the Blairite vision of economic reform as the engine of prosperity is now likely to make more headway. While Gerhard Schröder, the German fontaine view that a boost to demand is all Europe needs.

Charles Grant, director of the Centre for European Reform, said last night: "This is wonderful news. It will shift the intellectual climate in Europe back towards the

HONG KONG 12p

INDIA 48p

ISRAEL 15p

JAPAN 16p

MALAYSIA 20p

MAURITIUS 40p

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THAILAND 40p

DAE 38p

USA 7

SOUTH AFRICA 31p

agenda of economic reform." There was no official comment from the Treasury or Downing Street, nor the ECB row. The bankers argued that or the Bundesbank. They kept their celebrations private.

# Premiership chiefs quit in £50m row

THE CHIEF executive and the BY GLENN MOORE :hairman of football's Premier League were forced to resign ast night in row over consulancy contracts potentially vorth an estimated £50m to at. Ste television broadcaster

Peter Leaver, the chief ex-

Football Correspondent

The timing of this development could be especially damter cull of football administra- aging as Mr Leaver, a skilled advocate, had been steering the Premier League's defence against the Office of Fair Trading's investigation into the collective bargaining of television executive of the Scottish FA, in rights. If the case, currently in the Restrictive Practices Court. whelming opposition from their is lost it could lead to an acceleration of football's wealth gap As a consequence, the five and the break-up of the Pre-

ound of television negotiations of the England football coach - the relationship between tele-The row underlines the impact are currently in the hands of vision and football which prom football of the millions at caretakers. The sport may be voked yesterday's denouement

and Wiseman – Mr Leaver and

Mr Chisholm and Mr successful attempt to renegotake through broadcast rights. enjoying a financial boom but its though - as with Messrs Kelly Chance were enlisted to guide tiate the contracts before Mr

gotiations. As both are former that culminated in yesterday's BSkyB executives this ap- rift; there was also a clash of strong opinions.

Mr Leaver is temporarily replaced by Mike Foster, the Premier League's secretary. Dave Richards, the chairman of Sheffield Wednesday, takes over as acting chairman.

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Her Lee Clegg was

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Tibet demonstrations Two monks detained in Lhasa over protests. Foreign P17

Officials expelled

Five British officials

expelled from the Congo

amid spy claims Foreign P16

Prudential buys M&G Britain's biggest life insurer is to buy M&G in a £1.95m agreed deal Business P20

Stone moves to Villa Steve Stone has signed for Aston Villa for £5.5m in the House

Mark Steel **Donald Macintyre** There is great joy in Who will Tony Blair doing radio in the blue

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INSIDE THE REVIEW

ripse resort of Sandwich Star light, star bright At last, a date of birth for the universe



## 200 years, five months and three minutes. How to make the perfect cup of tea

IN THE MAGAZINE

BRIAN VINER: STARS IN HIS EYES **MANNA PAVORD** ON THE PRIMROSE **EPLUS** ARTS. **BOOKS, TRAVEL** 

DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, IAN JACK, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, SUSANNAH FRANKEL, BRIAN VINER JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH. DEBORAH ORR, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

# Mowlam pins peace hopes on Clinton

PRESIDENT BILL Clinton could hold the key to unlocking the impasse in the Northern Ireland peace talks after a failure to reach a breakthrough last night in Downing Street.

Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is pinning her hopes on the US administration to help produce a breakthrough in Washington next week when the main party leaders visit the United States for St Patrick's Day celebrations.

President Clinton is expected to exert pressure on the Sinn Fein leadership for the IRA to make a start on decommissioning its weapons. This will allow David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, to go ahead with the establishment of the new Ulster power-sharing executive by the end-of-March

Mr Clinton will also urge the Ulster Unionists to "go the extra mile" for peace, as Tony Rlair said this week.

RY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

President Clinton has made clear he will do everything he can to helo. But I think it's important to find out from the parties as well what he can do from their perspective, because it is them he will be wanting to help.

"I'm sure that just providing an environment for people to meet and talk in a relaxed fashion will help build up some of the confidence we need to move forward in the weeks ahead."

Mr Trimble continued to talk up the prospects of a lastminute settlement after he emerged from Downing Street following yesterday's meeting with the Prime Minister.

But he was put under intense pressure from his Ulster Unionist colleagues not to give way over their demand that the IRA should begin decommissioning its arms before Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness are allowed to take seats

in the new Assembly power sharing executive.

One of Mr Trimble's senior colleagues said: "There was no progress. We are dead-

Mr Trimble, First Minister

designate in the new Northern Ireland Assembly, continued to talk up the chances of finding a way through the stumbling block of decommissioning. "I'm quite sure it can be resolved," he said. "It is within the capability of the paramilitary groups to do it. It's not a matter that they cannot do, it is a matter that they won't do. I don't think society can tolerate

Ms Mowlam said she was not contemplating failing to resolve the arms issue by the new deadline for the setting up of the Assembly, in three weeks' time. "I have found in the past it is deeply unhelpful to plan for failure. I'm not planning for failure, I'm planning to call a meeting of the Assembly in the week of the 29th." First couple's puzzle, page 13

that 'won't'," he said.



Clegg acquitted of killing teenager

not be sure of it. He is therefore

lation to this shot." In his judge-

ment he repeatedly said he did

THE CONTROVERSIAL case of By DAVID MCKITTRICK the paratrooper Lee Clegg yesterday took another twist when, in a re-trial, a Belfast judge acquitted him of the murder of the Lords, but last year the courts the Army and subsequently Belfast teenager Karen Reilly. The outcome was denounced.

by republicans and nationalists. have broken down when the verdict was delivered, while Karen Reilly's father, Sean, was clearly upset.

The paratrooper was origithe 18-year-old. Appeals were

quashed the guilty verdict and

ordered a re-trial of the case. The nine-year saga served as perceptions of army actions in nally convicted of the murder of sections of the British media. In Belfast, nationalist opin-

that he was accepted back into

Although Mr Justice Kerrac-not believe Clegg had told the quitted Clegg on the charge of truth in evidence, describing said he sympathised with the to the peace process. A The Clegg family was said to a stark illustration of differing murder, he upheld the earlier part of his story as "a farrago trial's guilty verdict of atmiddle England and national- tempting to wound with intent ist Ireland. The paratrooper's the car's 17-year-old driver, case was supported by cam- Martin Peake, who was also paigns by senior soldiers and killed in the incident. Mr Justice Kerr said he could not be certain Clegg fired the shot

of deceit and untruth". legal adviser, Simon McKay, done. It's so difficult to know said: "Neither Lee nor his famwhat are the rights and wrongs
ily really understood what the
in a case like this."

what are the rights and wrongs
consolidate the peace process. ily really understood what the in a case like this." verdict was until it was ex-

rejected by the Court of Appeal ion was angered first by his which entered the rear of the the court finished. All of them two teenagers had been

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES

farmest: Jersey 14C (57F)

Saxinlest: Skegness 7.1 hrs

For 24hrs to 6om Thursday

Outside the court, Clegg's and is now being seen to be

Joe Hendron, former SDLP plained in the ante-room after MP for West Belfast, said the

ty spokesman, Ken Maginnis,

families of those killed, adding:

"I think justice has been done

very likely that he did but I can-completely overwhelming." He executed by the elite of the said the soldier intended to ap-British Army, the Parachute entitled to be acquitted in re- peal against the outstanding

Sinn Fein condemned the verdict as an insult to the family of Karen Reilly and a threat spokesman said: "We ... are infuriated by today's decision. It couldn't have come at a worse

time, a time when people are Even the judge said he believed Clegg had lied in his ev-

Ministry sponsors face Neill inquiry SPONSORSHIP of government BY FRAN ABRAMS

departments by big corpora- Westminster Correspondent Lord Neill's Committee on Britain's European presidency Standards in Public Life. announced yesterday.

Companies which spent millions last year sponsoring official events and campaigns might see their backing declared in future as political

donations are at present. Launching a wide-ranging inquiry, Lord Neill questioned whether there was any real difference between sponsoring a political party and sponsoring a government department. "A layman might ask what the difference is between two forms of sponsorship," he said. The com-mittee will look at whether the level of sponsorship should be limited, and whether the

amounts should be disclosed. revealed that summits during sored by Gala Bingo Halls.

vear received more than £1m from firms such as Group Four Eurostar and Rover.

Baroness Symons, the Foreign Office minister, revealed that last year's G8 Summit in Birmingham received £500,000 in sponsorship. Among other sponsors were the Goldman Sachs merchant bank and Sony.

The Foreign Office added that it had retained the services of a specialist firm, Integrated Communication Projects Ltd, to seek the sponsorship. Approaches were made to more

than 400 companies. Numerous other government publicity projects received sponsorship. Among them were two Department of The issue was raised by Lord
Norton, a professor from the University of Hull who became a Conservative peer last year. His
Richards and information of the University of Hull who became a cales sponsored by Morphy Richards and information of the University of Hull were two Departures. questions in the House of Lords winter fuel payments sport

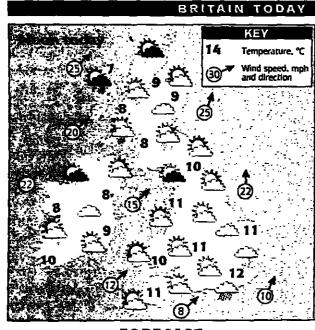
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NUMBER SCREEN



**FORECAST** 

General situation: England and Wales will start rather dull with light rain. It will become quite mild and Wales and western England will soon brighten. Northern England, rise Midlands and central southern England will also see some sunny spells by afternoon, the dull weather becoming confined to the south-east. Most of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be windy with frequent showers, some of them heavy with snow over the mountains. However, parts of eastern Scotland will escape the showers and should see some reasonable sunshine.

London, SE England, E Anglin, E Midlands: Miki but duli with light roin. Bright ening only slowly. A light south-westerly wind. Man temp 11-13C (92-55F). Channel is, Cent S England, W Midlends: Dull and damp but becoming mainly dry with sunny spells. A light south-westerly breeze. Max temp 11-13C (\$2-55F). SW & NW England, Males, Cent N England, Lake Dist, Isle of Men: Early cloud and rain but some decent sunny spells and only isolated showers this afternoon. A light south-west breeze Max temp 9-12C (48-54F).

E England, NE England: Early cloud and patchy rain will clear to leave it mainly dry with long sunny spells. A moderate southerly wind, Maix temp 8-11C (46-52F). NE & SE Scooland, Edinburgh, Aberdeent Breezy with some showers in the north. The south will be drier with some decent sunny spells once early cloud has gone. A fresh south-westerly wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F) NW & SW Scotland, Glasgom, N & W Isless A few sunny spells but cloud will gather to bring the risk of a few showers by the afternoon. A fresh south-westerly wind Max temp 6-9C (43-48F).

N tretands Sunshine, especially in the south and east. Showers spreading to the north and west. A light to moderate south-westerly wind. Max temp 8-10C (48-50F).

OUTLOOK

Some rain may linger in the south-east early on Saturday and showers will continue in the far north and weat but most of the UK will be mild with sunny spells. Overnight mist and fog patches will lift to leave Sunday mild and bright, although rain will reach Northern Ireland later.

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout, Laytonstone, Wajor roadworks on new M11 knk road. Until 31st December. Bristot: M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks on Avonnouth Bridge. Until 23rd June 2001. Warwickshite: M42 Between J10 Tarmorit services and J9 Sulton Coldfield. Roadworks and contraflow. Until 23rd April. South Yorkshite: M1 Between J34 Tinsley Vizduct (A6109) 3. L34 Tinsley Vizduct (A6178). Sheffield. Carriageway is reduced to two taxes southbound. Until 21st November 2000.

tround. Diversions in place Until 1st June. Co.Antrias: A1 Kingsway, Dunthurray. Floadworks, various Jano restrictions. Until Tex August.

Derbyshine: A6 Between Derby Southern

Bypass (A50) and Shardow Road roundabout. East of Alvaston. Controllow for work

LIGHTING UP 6.45am 6.28am 6.30am 6.39am 6.20am 6.30am 6.28am HIGH TIDES

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12.15 4.3 12.57 4.2
6.06 5.0 6.54 5.0
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1.15 4.3 12.57 4.2
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AIR QUALITY
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SUN & MOON WEATHERLINE

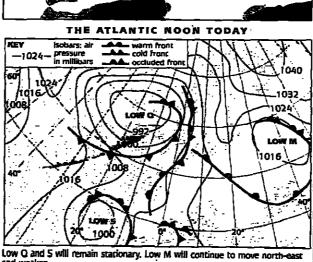
0.7 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.3 21.1 0.9 0.3 0.3 0.8 0.3 24 hours to 6pm (GMT) Thursday, information by PA WeatherCentre Rain

AT LEAST 60 people were injured when cyclone Davina hit Mauritius, officials said yesterday. The cyclone is now heading towards Madagascar after

OR SHINE...

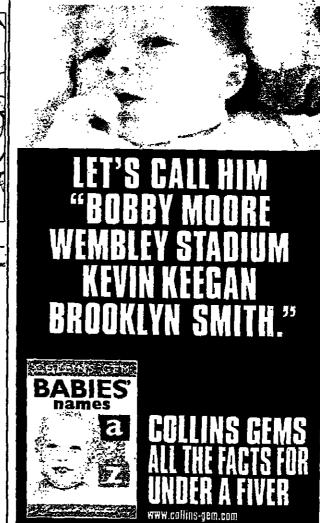
briefly battering Mauritius, in the south-eastern tip of the Indian Ocean, with winds of up to 108 mph. Government and hospital officials said that 60 people were admitted to hospital and about 1,000 more suffered cuts

and bruises.

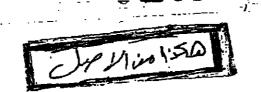


THE WORLD YESTERDAY

**EUROPE NOON TODAY** 



COLLINS understand more



# Addicts import a plague of robbery and violence to Dublin's fair city



A checkpoint operated by the Drugs Awareness Committee in the Brookview Tallaght area of Dublin. Few are untouched by the effects of drug abuse

THE INDEPENDENT Irulay 12 \Lan h 1909

BRIAN VINER:

STARS IN HIS EYES MANNA PAVORD ON THE PRIMROSE MPLUS ARTS.

BOOKS, TRAVEL

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TO THAN WHITE

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most successful cities. that was the same n # · · · · Dublin has undergone a trans-\* <u>\* 17.4\*</u> formation. Thousands of young, working people have been lured والمستوالية والم Harry F. Pro 16 18 25 1 and the second FREE TO SE

of the newly developed apartment blocks near the Grand

nights a week. Sometimes flying high, but more often than lice helicopter is a persistent white-collar, and increasingly ep-deprived residents of the

That noise, together with the relentless wail of car ... alarms, is a reminder of the drugs and crime problem that is blighting one of Europe's

In the past decade or so to the inner-city by flats at affordable prices. But the renaissance is being threatened by drug addicts. In prosperous commercial areas, every shop has security staff on the doors.

THE MENACING clatter of he- By ALAN MURDOCH licopter blades wakes residents in Dublin

> stabbed by a robber armed with a blood-filled syringe. For weeks of blood tests he was terrified he might have Aids. "I was a nervous wreck," he said. "The guy

died of Aids two years ago."

not swooping in low with its: their own doormen, while local high-powered spotlight, the po-newsagents weary of "jumpovers" - where robbers leap over

that did it to me is dead now. He

The violence is not restricted to robbery. Alan Byrne, 27, a rehabilitated addict, was shot three times in the lower back in an assassination attempt

AND ANDREW BUNCOMBE

vest in closed circuit television.

And there are the stories of sheer horror. One shop worker while he waited for the results

area as he set off for work.

osie Dwyer, 41, a HIV-positive heroin addict. They were together on the night in May 1996 when Dwyer was repeatedly attacked and eventually beaten to death in an apparent vigilante mob attack.

calating drugs problem, the tactics of Dublin anti-drug vigilante groups are uncompro-- one of 2,200 people who re- mising. In the Sundrive area ported attacks or threats of such late last year they put up attacks in the city in 1996 - was posters listing names of drug dealers to be shot.

As if this were not enough there are savage internecine "turf wars" between dealers. "Cottoneye Joe" Delaney, 54, an alleged ecstasy dealer is accused of the torture and murder of a dealer Mark Dwyer, 23,

in December 1996. Similar levels of violence surrounded the operations of PJ "the Psycho" Judge, a crim-

inal with suspected INLA links,

last Tuesday in the Coombe who tried to take over Dublin's the profile of the heroin users cannahis market in 1996. Judge, is largely youthful. A recent sur-Byrne shared a flat with 41, who was shot dead two killing five rivals.

One of his suspected victims was William "Jock" Corbally, whose body was never found. He reportedly had his teeth of those regularly using heropulled out, was beaten with a . in in the city are under 25, and cut, then thrown into a lime pit left school at 16 or younger. in Co Kildare.

But dealers are willing to risk such violence for a share of a burgeoning market: According to the most recent figures. Dublin now has around 13,000 regular heroin users, up from 8,000 to 10,000 two years ago. Officers based at the Garda head-Park believe that heroin is now responsible for 80 per cent of the city's crime. Their studies suggest addicts commit 85 per cent

cent of muggings and 84 per cent of theft from cars. As with Dublin's population,

of aggravated burglaries, 82 per

vey carried out by a government task force suggested that 72 per cent of heroin users were male, 83 per cent unemployed and 69 per cent lived

with their parents. Two-thirds Tony Geoghegan, director

of the Merchants Quay Project which treats drugs users, said 900 mainly young, first-time drug users sought treatment in the city last year. A high pro-portion of these had begun injecting in the last six months.

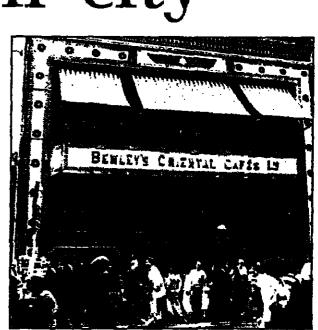
"You are dealing with high quarters in Dublin's Phoenix levels of educational disadvantage and poverty, with few having aspirations," he said. '[They come] from areas where there is an established black economy and where maybe the parents were involved in crime or drugs."

The Irish government has

heroin problem. In the early Eighties it used undercover officers whose efforts, accompanied by community action, were effective in tackling dealers who were then less careful about distancing themselves from the product.

And after the 1996 killing of drug dealers, a murder which prompted an international outcry, the Government poured more funds into anti-drugs measures, A new Criminal Assets Bureau targeting major dealers was set up.

But as fast as the Garda act, so new dealers move in. The deaths continue, the estates built with short-sightedness in the Sixties continue to be littered with syringes and glass from smashed up cars, while the problems spill over into the newly gentrified areas where the residents are woken at night by the sound of heli-



## ...but it's still a magnet for the stylish and rich

THERE WAS a time when for BY ALAN MURDOCH much of Dublin's youth, the first opportunity to leave was the opportunity they jumped at. Not

With the help of money from Europe, Dublin has become one of the most fashionable cities of the continent.

The success story of Temple Bar – an older, forgotten area in the city centre and its transformation into the restaurant and club quarter - is well known. But elsewhere the city has also been reborn.

In the Smithfield Market

area, new villages have been developed with former distilleries and grain stores turned into modern working and living accommodation. While not everyone is convinced of the value-for-money of these develocoments, there is little doubt they are changing the face of also grown on northern and western outskirts where hightech plants such as Intel in Leixlip have created thousands of jobs. Similar developments.

have sprung up in the satellite

towns of Blanchardstown,

Swords and Lucan. The revival in the Irish capital's economy has been built on low-pay agreements, tax cuts and incentives for developers complementing a healthy inward investment. Multinationals in turn have been hired by some of Europe's lowest corporation tax rates and the promise of the highest rate of

In central Dublin it has been also driven by arguably the greatest success of the controversial former taoiseach, Charles Haughey - the International Financial Services Centre, directly employing 6,500 people and built on formerly derelict dockland. Taking advantage of tax.

builders have erected a forest of private apartment blocks on every available space, creating city homes for thousands in a reversal of a flight to the suburbs stretching from the Fifties to the Eighties

The building boom has accompanied a revival in city hying, also fostered by Mr Haughey, enlivening older narròw streets.

Key to the continuing Irisho tween state, unions and employers trading wage restraint in return for tax cuts, which has held Irish inflation at low levels for a decade.

This has allowed Ireland to undercut near neighbours with lower wage costs for inward investors. As a result, unemployment fell this month to 6.8 per cent, its lowest level for 16 years, compared with a peak of 18 per cent in the late 1980s.

But this is the backdrop. Front of stage is a city of newfound confidence and newfound opportunities. It is also a profit in the European Union. not rushing to leave.



Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise in 'Eyes Wide Shut'

## Kidman unrobed in Kubrick's final legacy

STANLEY KUBRICK, who died BY DAVID LISTER last week, was considered to be Arts News Editor the most radical of directors. But even he, it seems, could not change some cinematic tradi-A trailer from his final film,

Eyes Wide Shut, shown yesterday amid fevered publicity at a US film trade show in Las Vegas, features Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise in a passionate encounter. Miss Kidman is entirely naked except for her ear-

rings. Mr Cruise is naked from

The 90-second clip was personally chosen to be the first preview of his film by Kubrick, who died at his home in Hertfordshire last Sunday aged 70.

Even before Kubrick's death see why. there was huge interest in his latest film, his first since 1987's Full Metal Jacket. Eyes Wide

Shut was filmed under conditions of total secrecy.

Nicole Kidman has merely made the comment that the director insisted on dealing with her and Tom Cruise (her husband both in the film and in life)

She added cryptically: "When you see the film you will

The clip begins with Kidman standing in front of a mirror, taking off her earrings. Cruise

sing and caressing her while a blues soundtrack plays. Warner Brothers chairman Terry Semel described the clip

as "short and provocative." After the clip was shown at the trade convention in the USA there was a brief moment of silence before the 3,000 strong audience, composed largely of cinema operators,

burst into applause. It emerged yesterday that

of the whole film last week with Cruise and Kidman in New York, which Mr Semel attended. Even though his studio had funded the movie, it was the first time he had seen it. So concerned was Kubrick about secrecy that he reportedly insisted that the projectionist

screening.
Filming of Eyes Wide Shut took 15 months. While very lit-

turn his back during the

approaches her from the side, there was a special screening tile is known about it, it is believed to be a sexual thriller in which Cruise and Kidman play psychiatrists married to each other, loosely based on Arthur Schnitzler's 1926 novella Dream Story.

The film is scheduled to open in America in July, prior to its UK premiere. Mr Semel predicted it would receive an adults only 'R' rating.

My Year With Kubrick, Review, page 10

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# Price fixing of medicines to be ended

AN END to price fixing on med- By JEREMY LAURANCE icines was signalled yesterday when the Government's consumer watchdog was given the go-ahead to begin legal moves

to abolish the practice. The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) will now prepare its case 20 years the market had for a full court hearing next year which could result in sharp falls in the artificially inflated prices charged for common branded remedies such as painkillers, cough medicines and vitamins. saving consumers an estimated £300m a year.

tive of the supermarket chain, backed the OFT and agreed Asda, which has campaigned against price fixing, said after had a case to answer Giving his the hearing: "The writing is on ruling. Mr Justice Buckley said the wall for resale price maintenance and the drug manufacturers should take the hint had been changes in the way and now voluntarily stop imposing this health tax."

Price fixing has been outthe Resale Price Maintenance Act. 1964. Medicines were exempted from the ban in 1970 to protect small chemists' shops, which argued that if they could not make enough profit from the sale of the medicines many

would be forced to close, leaving large areas of the country without access to medical drugs.

since 1987.

going out of business.

this sector in 1996 and at last we

can now proceed to the High

Court. This is the last bastion

of resale price maintenance in

A spokeswoman for the

Community Pharmacy Action

Group said: "We hope the full

hearing will grant us a five-year

moratorium so that alternative

ways of protecting community

pharmacies can be found."

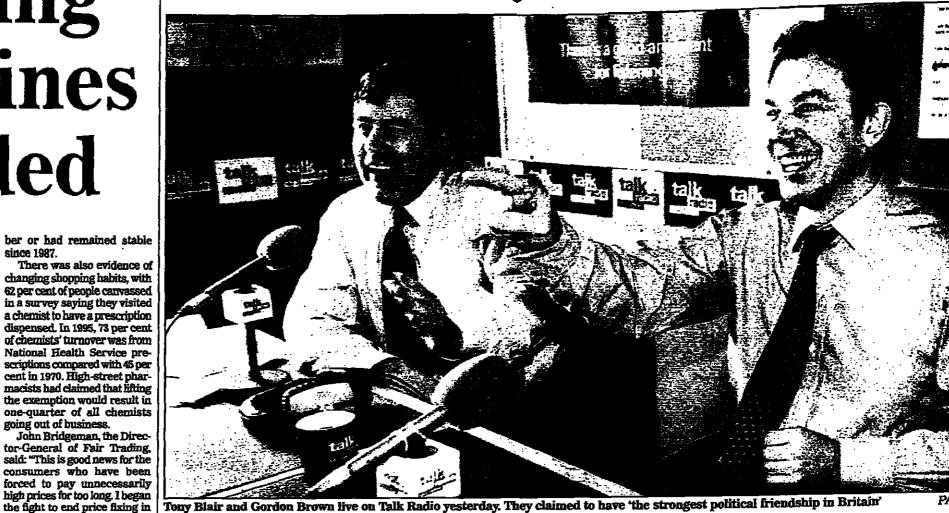
the economy."

The OFT said that in the last changed. Chemists sold a wider range of goods and were less dependent on the income they got from the sale of medicines. This had fallen from 10-13 per cent of their total sales in 1970 to 7-8 per cent in the mid-Nineties.

300m a year. Yesterday, the Restrictive
Allan Leighton, chief executhat the drug manufacturers that he and two lay members felt there was "no doubt" there pharmaceuticals were marketed since 1970.

"We are convinced it is in the lawed on most products under public interest for the court to revisit this matter," he said. David Oliver QC, represent-

ing the OFT had told the judges at a hearing last month that there was no longer any reason to protect chemists' shops. which had been rising in numPolitical broadcast by the Best Friends' Party



Tony Blair and Gordon Brown live on Talk Radio yesterday. They claimed to have 'the strongest political friendship in Britain'

THE PRIME MINISTER and the Chancellor of the Exchequer made broadcasting history yes terday by being interviewed together on the radio.

Tony Blair described their relationship as the strongest political friendship in Britain, dismissing stories that claimed Gordon Brown had not forgiven him for becoming leader of

the Labour Party. For his part, the Chancellor joked that his neighbours at 10 Downing Street were a noisy family, and complained of hearing the Prime Minister playing his

guitar too loudly.

found being Prime Minister which it would make them he regretted having to live in a flat above 10 Downing Street. vehicle fael.

teners to Scott Chisholm's phone-in show on Talk Radio.

The two were given a re-

markably light grilling by lis-

Callers to the programme were sceptical about the Bud-

"remorseless" and said that poorer. Several complained the Chancellor. about increases in duty on

Mr Brown offered personally to intervene in the case of a disabled caller who asked whether he would be eligible for benefit to soften the impact of increased fuel duties. "Why get and focused on ways in don't you write me a note and

The Prime Minister lived up to his reputation for false modesty when he said to one caller: "Hello Joyce, Tony Blair here..." before going on to explain why the Government could not afford to scrap the television licence fee for pen-

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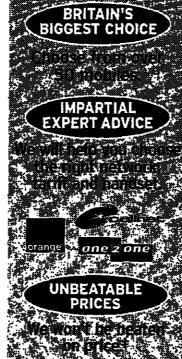
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THE BRITISH film industry is BY DAVID LASTER tion of the industry is shown by the fact that nearly 80 per cent now a network of small busi-Arts News Editor nesses, most of them operating with fewer than 10 employees, sists largely of small companies with fewer than 10 employees a new report shows. It has gone from a world-famous but and high numbers of part-time precarious studio system to a and self-employed workers." thriving £3.3bn enterprise run

industry is booming

£3.3bn British film

The latest edition of Cultur- video activities. There was an al Trends, from the indepen- 11 per increase in the total dent Policy Studies Institute (PSI), describes the current nesses between 1996 and 1997. E3.3bn small business"

It states: "In its postwar heyboasted world-famous production studios such as Ealing, Gainsborough, British Lion, Rank, London Films and British century later, the industry conThe report says that there

by literally thousands of small are now around 3,000 businesses engaged in film and number of film and video busi-The PSI stresses the indus-

> 62 per cent, from £2bn in 1995 to £3.3bn in 1996. United Kingdom earnings by film companies from overseas markets rose from The continuing transforma-

of all UK film and video enterprises had a turnover of less than £500,000; nearly 90 per cent of film and video businesses had fewer than 10 employees, 98 per cent had fewer than 50 employees, and a total of only 10 companies employed more than 250 people.

Sara Selwood, the editor of Cultural Trends, commented: "The figures confirm that the try's growing contribution to cant contribution to Britain's the economy. Turnover of film economy as well as its identity day, the British film industry and video activities increased by overseas. [But] one of the most striking findings of this report is how difficult it is to pull together data about the British film industry."

ads agree

International Pictures. Half a £587m in 1993 to £572m in 1997. Cultural Trends 30: £25; Tele phone 01235 401000.

## McEwan up for top prize

Ian McEwan has been shorterary award, the world's richest

McEwan, who won last year's Booker with his novel Amsterdam, now has his earlier *Enduring Love* among eight contenders for the fiction

prize set up 13 years ago by

THE BOOKER PRIZE winner By DAVID LISTER

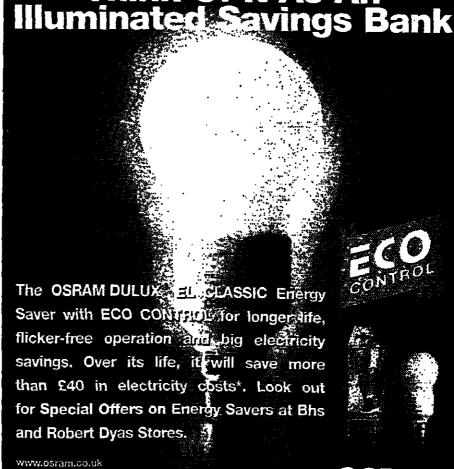
listed for the £85,000 Impac lit- and Dublin corporation. The list was selected from 100 books nominated by libraries in more than 50 countries.

by Bristol-born Andrew Miller who lives in Paris, is the story of Reader by Bernard Schlink the rise, fall and redemption of management company Impac a man unable to feel pain.

tine by Jim Crace which won the 1997 Whitbread Novel Award: Underworld by Don DeLillo; The Ordinary Seamon by Francisco Goldman; The Wind-Up For the first time a debut Bird Chronicle by Haruki Mu-novel is listed Ingenious Pain, rakami; The Puttermesser Papers by Cynthia Ozick; and The

> The winner will be announced in Dublin on 17 May.

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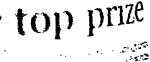
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# Murderer to get sex swap on the NHS

BY IAN BURRELL Home Affairs Correspondent

THE PRISON Service has given the go-ahead for six prisoners, including a murderer, a kidnapper and an armed robber, to undergo sex changes on the National Health Service. The decision follows a legal challenge by one of the prisoners, who has been fighting an eight-year battle to change his gender John Pilley, a kidnapper serv-

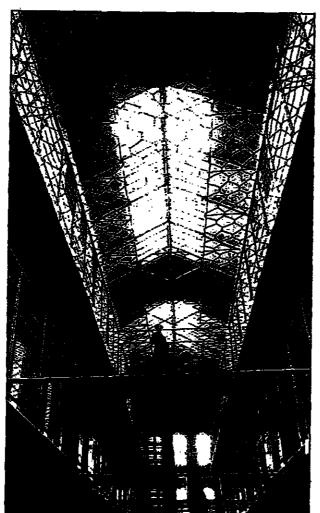
ing a life sentence, will become the first prisoner to undergo "gender reassignment surgery" when he has an orchidectomy in Leicester next month

Pilley who is known as "Jane Anne", has had more than seven years of hormone-replacement. treatment while in jail but took legal action after prison chiefs appeared to be blocking his demands for genital surgery. He argued that having given him treatment enabling him to develop breasts, it was unfair for the Prison Service to leave him in the limbo of being part-man and part-woman. The Independent has

learned that Treasury solicitors, representing the Prison Service, have been instructed not to continue contesting the case. Instead, Michael Longfield, the service's head of healthcare, has told officials at Gartree Prison, near Market Harborough, in Leicestershire, that Pillev can have his operation.

The orchidectomy, which costs around £11,000, is due to take place next month at Leicester Royal Infirmary. Following the operation, Pilley is likely to be transferred to Holloway women's prison in north London.

The decision will create a precedent for at least five other prisoners seeking sex-change operations and pursuing legal cases against the Prison Service. including Philip Taplin, Matthew and David Cross.



Douglas Wakefield hopes to be transferred to a women's jail such as Holloway (left)

The barrister and former Liberal Democrat MP Alex Carlile, who campaigned for transsexual rights in parliament, said the decision was an "important step towards giving transsexuals proper civil liberties".

The Prison Service said yesterday that it was under an obligation to give prisoners the same access to medical care as lines for prison governors on how they should deal with transsexual inmates. A spokeswoman said: "The

general approach is that the prisoner should wait for release. It's not really a suitable environment to take such an irrevocable decision. The problems arise with prisoners serving a long sentence."

napping of a taxi-driver, Linda Charlesworth, in 1981, is allowed to wear women's clothing while he is locked in his cell.

He has drawn up a charter in which he promises not to put on his female attire in front of other inmates. It reads: "With the exception of underwear I will keep the articles in my room at all times (apart from has chosen to be called "Dee", is now drawing up new guide- tenced to life in jail for the kid- male clothing except between Crown Court in 1974 for mur- failure. Cross, an armed robber they are suffering," she said. | he is still at large."

Transsexual David Cross, jailed for 17 years for armed robbery, is now known as Kelly Denise Cassidy and Leigh

Gartree's therapeutic commu-fellow prisoner Brian Peake nity, which includes other pris- with a shoelace, then stabbed oners seeking sex changes, such as Philip Taplin and convicted killer Matthew Richardson, 42. Other transsexual prisoners are scattered around the jail system, often with little ment after twice taking prison in the way of specialist support. Douglas Wakefield makes

life in Channings Wood Prison, in Devon, more bearable by decorating his cell with lace curtains and flowers. The double murderer has been diagnosed by a psychiatrist as having "gender identity disori-entation". In letters from prison he has said: "Maleness has always been nothing less than an abhorrence to me - something to be threatened and intimidated by. I have grown to detest

the body I live in." Wakefield, who is allowed to wear women's ear-rings and

lock-up at night and unlock in dering an uncle who had taunt- serving 17 years, is anxiously ed him about his sexuality awaiting his orchidectomy. Pilley is a member of Four years later he strangled Dr Russell Reid, a consultant psychiatrist who has advised Cross and other

and beat him to death in the psychiatric wing of Parkhurst jail on the Isle of Wight in Hampshire. He spent a record 1,200 days in solitary confineofficers hostage and trying to kill one of them.

Now a model prisoner, he says that he could happily live years before they can be conthe rest of his life behind bars, provided he was given a sex difficult, though not impossible change and moved to a for them to fulfil that." women's prison. At Parkhurst, David Cross for Change, a campaigning or-

now known as Kelly Denise Richards - is taking Androcur, the hormone drug cyproterone acetate, which reduces levels of Although transsexual pris-

oners such as Cross are terrified of stopping such treatment - their liberty but they should not and reverting to men, they are be further punished by removal aware that the prolonged use of of treatment for a recognised

of jail BY IAN BURRELL FOR A master con man who had spent most of his life exploiting a wide variety of disguises, the feeble security of Ford Open

Master

conman

slips out

Prison was never going to prove much of a challenge. Sure enough, only two months into his six-year sentence, the notorious swindler Anthony Passmore walked straight out of the Sussex jail. He has not been seen for over

a fortnight. Unfortunately his escape came as news to the detectives who contacted Ford last week, hoping to interview Passmore, 53, about the missing spoils of a £6m fraud.

They also considered it a disaster. For the Islington born con man is linked to Britain's most notorious crime gang. the north London-based Adams family.

Detectives had pursued him for a year before trapping him as he prepared to "sting" London investors for a further £12m by posing as an Irish bank director.

But Passmore proved too wily for officers at Ford, walking out of the prison, near Littlehampton, between 8am and 2pm on 24 February. Detectives from the City of

London police force contacted Ford to arrange an interview with Passmore about the £6m only to be told that he was on the loose. A force spokesman said:

"They were not happy, to say the very least. We are hopping Last night embarrassed

Prison Service officials were trying to explain why Passmore had been allowed such lax security conditions so early in his sentence. A Prison Service spokesman

said: "Open prisons are run on a basis of trust. Mr Passmore has obviously abused that trust and if he is recaptured he will be sent to a closed prison. "He was sent to Ford after a

rigorous risk-assessment. He failed to appear at a roll-check on the day in question and

## Lords agree Jamaican girl's adoption in landmark ruling

THE GRANDPARENTS of a Ja- By JOHN ASTON maican girl yesterday won the legal right to adopt her through a ground-breaking House of

Despite strong Home Office opposition, five law lords unanimously decided that the needs of the child, now nearly 18, outweighed the need to maintain "an effective and consistent Emmigration policy".

The judgment is likely to make it easier for UK citizens to adopt children from abroad if it can be shown the move "safeguards and promotes the welfare of the child" throughout childhood, and the child's wish-

es and feelings have been properly taken into account. "B", who cannot be named. left a background of poverty in

Jamaica to stay with her grandparents, both UK citizens, in 1995 when aged 14. In a written judgment, Lord Hoffmann, sitting with Lords Nicholls, Hope, Hutton and Millett, described how the girl's

grandparents, who had emigrated to Britain nearly 40 rears ago, decided to adopt B, with her mother's consent, to give her a better start in life. Allowing an appeal against a

Court of Appeal ruling which where her family lived "in a prevented an adoption order, Lord Hoffman said: "In cases in which it appears to the judge that adoption would confer real benefits upon the child during

its childhood, it is very unlikely that general considerations of maintaining an effective and consistent immigration policy' could justify the refusal of an order. The two kinds of consideration are hardly commensurable so as to be capable of being weighed in the balance

against each other" Lord Hoffmann described primitive concrete house without a toilet or electricity".

Her grandparents decided to adopt her as their own child. In October 1997, a High Court Family Division judge ruled in favour of adoption and said the welfare benefits to B "were so strong that immigration policy was insufficient to override them", said Lord Hoffmann.

The Court of Appeal disagreed and said High Court judge Mr Justice Sumner had failed to distinguish the advantages of adoption itself from how the Home Office had or- those of B acquiring a right to dered B to return to Jamaica, live in the UK. Adoption would



Lord Hoffman: Benefits

have no advantages to the child, said the appeal judges. But yesterday Lord Hoffmann, with the four other law lords also agreeing, said the appeal judges had ignored "the considerable benefits" from adoption which B would have

accrued during the remainder

of her childbood.

#### crops may fall in value SURVEYORS WARNED yester-BY CHARLES ARTHUR **Technology Editor**

day that farmers who plant genetically modified (GM) crops could see their land values fall, and that tenants of such land might face bills to make up the shortfall.

The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) called for the creation of a land register through which potential buyers, and banks, could find out if and when GM crops had been planted or grown on a particular holding.

In a separate move, the Government announced that the independent advisory group on planting of GM crops will in-

vestigate the effects on British wildlife and biodiversity of commercial growing.

Land planted with GM

transsexual inmates, said that

prison life made it very difficult

for inmates to satisfy the nec-

essary criteria before they

could be given such a life-

He said: "They must adjust

successfully and live and work

in their female role for two

sidered for surgery. It is very

But Susan Marshall of Press

ganisation which is seeking

equal rights for people who

have gender identity disorder,

said that prisoners were enti-

tled to medical help to change

"They are supposed to lose

changing operation.

Lord Whitty, the environment minister, said that the remit of the Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (Acre) has been expanded, and a subgroup set up to examine biodiversity issues. "With these regulations in force, British wildlife species should be protected against effects from the commercial use of GM crops,"

he said in a Lords' written reply

However, the RICS report,

of Science and Technology and other departments, warned that growing such crops might lower the value of the land. In the case of tenant farmers, a landlord could, in effect, sue for any shortfall in land value caused by the tenant growing GM crops.

sent to the Government's Office

Michael Chambers, director of the RICS's policy unit, said that if commercial growing goes ahead, it would require a permanent register of sites where GM crops were or had been. "It's very hard to see how it could be controlled once you grow on a widespread scale in the countryside," he added.

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# Inquiry over new findings on Woodward

LAWYERS WHO represented Louise Woodward in her Boston murder trial said yesterday that they will instigate a full scientific inquiry into fresh claims, made in a CBS television news programme at the weekend, that the child who had been in her care. Matthew Eappen. died from strangulation.

The announcement was made by the lawyers in Boston in response to a growing public furore about the strangulation theory. They promised they would be assembling their own experts to study the findings. Eventually an independent inquiry could be launched jointly with prosecutors, they said.

A weekly news show, 60 Minutes, aired interviews with two doctors attached to the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. Contradicting the prosecution case that Matthew had died from brain trauma caused by slamming of the head and violent shaking, they contended that he had instead been strangled. The strangling, they added, could have occurred up studying medical evidence from

BY DAVID USBORNE

to two days before his admission to hospital.

Now studying law in London. Ms Woodward was convicted of involuntary manslaughter after the judge in the case mullified an earlier jury verdict of seconddegree murder. She returned to Britain last summer and in January settled a wrongful-death suit with Matthew's parents. Deborah and Sunil Eappen.

If her former lawyers conclude that the strangulation theory is credible, they could move for a new trial and the overturning of Ms Woodward's conviction. But they stressed yesterday that the final decision would have to be made by Ms Woodward herself, "Miss Woodward has always taken the course that would vindicate her and prove her innocent," Barry

Scheck, one of the lawyers, said. The CBS programme reported the findings of Dr Floyd Gilles, who had spent six months

the original trial. He concluded that bruising on the inside of Matthew's neck indicated strangulation, which would have impeded the flow of blood to his brain. His findings were supported in the programme by a

colleague, Dr Marvin Nelson. The claims quickly stirred controversy. A group of 70 doctors sent a searing open letter to CBS saying the network had been irresponsible to give air time to the two doctors and so cause new distress to the Eappens. They called the strangu

lation theory "preposterous". A co-ordinator of the letter was Dr Carole Jenny of Brown University Medical School. "I was pretty mystified by how in the world people can come to a conclusion that ... overlooks the skull fracture, the subdural haemorrhages and all the other things this child has," she said.

CBS has defended the proto launch a transport strike gramme. Kevin Tedesco, a netover rising costs. The Carlisle-based company work spokesman, said: "Our doctors have seen the evidence first-hand. Those doctors who this year in either Luxembourg wrote the letter haven't". or Belgium. But Stobart said it

EDDIE STOBART, Britain's By PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent most famous lorry company, is

to register up to half of its fleet

abroad in protest at the sharp

the Budget. The news came as

could move out half of its 800-

rise in vehicle tax announced in strong fleet. The move will allow the com-

pany to pay Vehicle Excise Duty of just £338 in Luxemit emerged hauliers are poised bourg or £876 in Belgium for its 40-tonne five-axle lorries. This will register at least 100 lorries compares with £5,750 in Britain, which the Chancellor increased

If Eddie Stobart takes advantage of the discrepancy and registers 400 vehicles abroad, the company will save over £2m a year.

The move is known as "flagging out" because it works on the same principle as shipowners who register their fleet with flags of convenience to take advantage of lower tax

Edward Stobart, chairman

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he was making the move to register lorries abroad reluctantly and warned it could have a long-term harmful effect on

vehicle safety in the UK. "If you register them on the Continent and run them in the UK, the Ministry of Transport can't do anything with you. That will attract unsafe measures and people - though not Stobarts - will get away with a

and chief executive, said that lot of things that they can't do at the moment'

Mr Stobart said his move was in response to competition from European hauliers who take advantage of the tax dis-crepancies. "We have European fleets coming into the UK with full tanks of cheaper diesel and leaving with empty tanks, paying no tax to our Govern-Government is losing out..."



orries go off-shore to avoid tax

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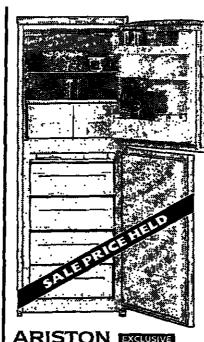


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## Teachers to foot bill for 'free' laptops

A ROW erupted yesterday over BY BEN RUSSELL the Government's "computers Education Correspondent. for all" Budget commitment, as teachers revealed that the small print showed they would have to foot the bill.

Teachers said the details will be disappointed that their fell short of expectations, after hopes, raised on Tuesday, are it emerged that much of the £20m allocated to fund laptops for teachers would be funding pay for their own computers.

They also criticised pilot plans to improve access to computers by allowing families in deprived areas to rent, for about £5 a month, "recycled" machines discarded by private firms. David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, announced the scheme yesterday, as he outlined the breakdown of the Government's £400m package to modernise the skills of teachers and the workforce. Under the scheme, schools will be able to buy some computers to lend to staff, and teachers will be offered low-interest loans to pay

for their own computers. Government sources said the loans would offer a better deal than commercial finance packages to help teachers join the "information revolution".

Mr Blunkett said vesterday: "It is vital that we prevent a generation of children emerging as the information poor.

"Information and communication technology allow us all access to the future and will help underpin prosperity and equality of opportunity into the next century, for young and old alike."

But Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "Teachers dashed on Thursday.

"Schools and teachers are critical to the information age, but teachers have to spend their own money on the tools of their trade."

Mr McAvoy also criticised the plans to offer deprived families old computers.

He said: "Out-of-date and discarded computers will not bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots. Instead, they will create the haves and the nearly-haves." Government sources insist-

ed the second-hand computers would be high-quality machines, obsolete for businesses but still acceptable for use in the home. "There's a lot of computers that businesses upgrade but are still perfectly good," a source said. Mr Blunkett outlined the

"computers for all" scheme as part of a drive to open 800 comnuter teaching centres in colleges, libraries and business across Britain, announced in Tuesday's Budget.

There will also be tax breaks to encourage employers to lend their staff members computers

for use at home. People who take out the Government's new Individual Learning Accounts will get 80 per cent discounts on basic computer training.

### IN BRIEF

#### Fayed's brother gets UK passport

ALI FAYED, the brother of the Harrods owner, Mohamed al-Fayed, has been given a British passport, the Home Office said today. A decision on whether to give a passport to Mr Fayed himself has not yet been taken. The Home Office said that the Home Secretary, Jack Straw was seeking further information before reaching that decision.

### Hackney's chief executive quits

TONY ELLISTON, chief executive of the London borough of Hackney, resigned ahead of what is expected to be a critical Ofsied report. David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, is expected to take control of Hackney's education department after Ofsted's verdict next week.

#### Old wrong brought to light

THE CASE of a 100-year-old man who claims wrongful dismissal from the Irish police force more than 70 years ago is to be looked at again. William Geary moved to the United States after his sacking in 1928 for allegedly taking a £100 bribe from the IRA; he has always denied the charge.

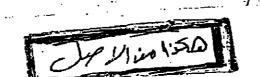
## Scientists make four-legged hens

CHICKS HAVE been made to grow rudimentary clawed legs instead of wings, it was revealed yesterday. Scientists in America took a gene found in legs and transferred it to the wings of chicken embryos, causing feathers to vanish and the beginnings of clawed fingers to appear.

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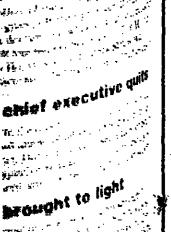
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THE FOOTBALL Association's By PETER THAL LARSEN hopes of hosting the World Cup in 2006 were given a massive boost yesterday when a consortium led by the FA sealed a deal to take control of Wembley stadium.

Shareholders in Wembley plc, the private company which owns the stadium, yesterday voted overwhelmingly to sell the famous Twin Towers to the consortium for £103m

The vote marks the end of a tortuous, four-year process to close the sale. It also ended a last-ditch attempt by two private leisure companies and three dissident Wembley directors to renegotiate the agreement.
A host of luminaries involved

in England's World Cup bid welcomed the news. Sir Bobby Charlton, a member of England's 1966 World Cup-winning side said: "The current Wembley was regarded as one of the wonders of the sporting world when it was built in the Twenties, and I am sure that is what we will think when the new sta-

State for Culture, Media and Sport, said: "The new Wembley is at the heart of our bid to se cure a number of major in-ternational events including, of course, the 2006 World Cup. This is more excellent news for

these campaigns."

Alec McGivan, England's 2006 campaign director, promised that the new Wembley would be "the finest stadium in the world".

Under the terms of the deal, Wembley is being sold to the English National Stadium Development Company - a con-sortium backed by the FA and partly funded with National Lottery money. The consortium plans to spend £200m on building the new stadium.

Bob Stubbs, the chief executive of the consortium, said the designs for the new stadium would be finalised in the sumbegin in September 2000.



Sir Bobby Charlton and Sir Geoff Hurst reliving World Cup glory at Wembley yesterday

Wembley, which was completed in 1923, is a listed building and the consortium will have to convince the planning committee at Brent Council in north-west London - and National Heritage – that the new design is an improvement. De-

controversy. Small shareholders who attended the extraordinary general meeting yesterday morning opposed the sale. However, they were overwhelmingly out-voted by several large fund managers

allowing the sale to be cleared

Astaire and Roger Brooke - to block the sale. The three, who argued that the deal under-valued the stadium, had encouraged rival leisure companies to make a bid for Wembley pic.

Both ENIC, the football investment group which controls poned. However, they were overruled by the rest of Wemwas ratified by the shareholders yesterday. Last night, Mr Mead said

bley plc if the vote was post-

small shareholders in Wembley

## Mink farmer admits cruelty

BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

A MINK FARMER whose animals were released by anti-fur activists, was yesterday fined after admitting a string of cruelty charges and breaches of welfare regulations.

Terence Smith was fined 25.000 and ordered to pay £15,000 costs by magistrates at Lyndhurst in Hampshire, It is the first time a British fur factory farmer has been prosecuted for cruelty.

Oba Nsugoe, for the prosecution, told magistrates that members of the group Respect for Animals had carried out a three-month investigation into conditions at Crow Hill Top Farm near Burley in Hampshire, between September and November 1997

They passed their evidence. which included video footage and photographs, to the RSPCA and the Ministry of Agriculture. Fisheries and Food who

brought the case to court. Mr Nsugbe said animal wel lare officers from Hampshire County Council had been sent to the farm which was very dilapidated. "Blocked drains were overflowing with maggots and faeces and on that occasion they did see a number

of injured mink," he said The court heard that some of the animals were so badly hurt that bones were protruding from infected wounds and others had to be put down.

Last July a group of uniden ified animal activists released 6,000 of the farm's mink into the wild, causing mass hysteria among the local population and fears of an ecological disaster.

Robert Grey, for the defence. said the problems had begun after the farm was attacked. The damage to the cages meant the mink could attack each other and it was impossible to tell which family group

name of TT Smith (Mink) Ltd. Lucy Clark, of the RSPCA.

they belonged to. Smith, who trades under the refused to comment. said the charity was pleased about the conviction but disappointed that Smith had not en banned from keeping

#### mer and a planning application had been "filibustered by the signs are being drawn up by a per cent of Glasgow would be submitted in Septeam of architects led by Sir The controversy follows a Rangers, and SFX Entertaincorporate equivalent of the Norman Foster. tember. That would clear the long-running campaign by ment, a US leisure giant, indiunion block vote". dium is unveiled." way for demolition work to Until the last moment, howthree non-executive directors of cated they were willing to However, sources close to Chris Smith, the Secretary of ever, the sale was shrouded in Wembley- Peter Mead, Jarvis Wembley said any move to bill for Tycoon who stole BCCI's £750m jailed

THE MAN who broke the Bank BY KIM SENGUPTA 1 aptops of Credit and Commerce International and was jailed for 14 years lost his appeal yesterday against conviction.

Abbas Gokal, a Pakistaniborn shipping tycoon, was a key role in the \$20bn (£12.5bn) collapse of the bank. He had, said the prosecution, siphoned some \$1.2bn (£750m) through a Gokal said he was innocent.

Gokal, 62, was in the dock yesterday as Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Latham and Mr Justice Colman, rejected his appeal during found guilty in 1997 of playing a 90-minute hearing in London. The former businessman

was convicted by a jury of conspiracy to defraud and conspiracy to account falsely, at the the Old Bailey, costing £4.5m. of its kind to be handed out by a British court

The trial judge, Mr Justice Buxton, said Gokal's actions had threatened the integrity of the entire international banking system. The judge added that Gokal was "an intelligent, sophisticated and unscrupulous man, who put the interests of Gokal, who was arrested in yourself and your family before Germany in 1994, was brought

His sentence was the steepest tence, Gokal was ordered to pay ment against him should have £2.9m out of his personal assets within two years, or face another three years in prison.

> QC, submitted that Gokal's convictions on both counts were "unsafe". The main grounds centred on the circumstances in which

Gokal's counsel, Alun Jones

Lord Justice Rose, giving the ruling of the court, said that been "stayed as an abuse of the process of the court". Gokal of his dishonest partic-

But the judges ruled yesterday that this claim was "unfounded" and "without

Gokal's other grounds, including submissions that the evidence of BCCI depositors was wrongly admitted and also that the trial judge's summing

It was a highly-sophisticated fraud with "international consequences of great gravity" and Gokal was "at its heart", the

the prosecution case against

ipation in the two conspiracies

was "overwheiming".

The court further ruled that to Gokal was "correct".



delay the meeting would have

undermined the deal to sell the

stadium. Under the terms of the

agreement, the sale would fall

through if it had not been com-

Wood, the chairman of the FA's

treasury committee and a

shareholder in Wembley pic,

told the shareholder meeting

any attempt to renegotiate the

deal would have been pointless

Yesterday Sir David Hili-

pleted by 15 March.

of its kind ruled 'correct' mink in the future.

# . He claimed that the indict- were also rejected. Service Control of The From the Director of 'The Nutty Professor' and 'Liar Liar' Laughteras contagious. STARTS TODAY AT CINEMAS EVERYW

## Star Performer. Don't miss the Grand Finale. For PEPs, the curtain comes down in April 1999. So if you want to take advantage of one of the best performers available, time's running out. Our European PEP has outperformed 97% of the competition over the last 5 years. It invests in a trust that has been 'AAA' rated in 6 out of the last 7 years", and had it been available as a PEP when launched, would have produced returns of 17.2%' - free from UK Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax. Whether you want to make a new investment, or transfer an existing PEP, make sure you don't miss the chance to enjoy our European PEP performance - while you still can. For further details, return the coupon or c Quote reference no. 448DB9 **SCOTTISH WIDOWS** www.scottishwidows.co.uk 2% discount on new lump sums and transfers before 5 April 1999. tish Widows, Direct Sales, PO Box 17036, FREEPOST SCO3744, Edinburgh EH3 0BR

## Brief whiff of reality amid a lot of mucky farm business

AGRICULTURE QUESTIONS are were references to "pork" at one seems a good enough excuse for a rarely thrilling. For the sketch point, and a faint whiff of livestock lie-in, but naturally MPs are wary. Writer this particular parliamentary chore carries all the seductive allure of a pre-dawn milking on a rainy winter's day, though obvi- vapour soon closed in again. The ously without the mud on one's most bucolic moment was the sight boots. Or the smell Indeed, it is one of Desmond Swayne charging into of the peculiarities of this session a supplementary about GM food that it is so detached from the physical facts of the countryside. Ministers talk of "transparent support structures", they tut over "di-raged bull would have been perfect. gressivity" and "CAP reform", they ponder the difficulties of "Com- been up all night trudging through mission infraction proceedings". the mire of Common Agricultural But they hardly ever use a noun that Policy reform. An agreement has

briefly penetrated the dolorous fragrance of ring-binders and registration dockets but the bureaucratic

The minister was away, having still has earth attached to it. There apparently been concluded, which boom at the back pours an even

Tomorrow they will hear the details of this hard-won deal/ignoble capitulation (delete according to party prejudices). The rest of us will have to wait for Phil Archer to have one of those chinkily instructive chats with David before the full implications to sink in. In the meantime, with Elliot Morley standing in for his exhausted boss, we got the official headline: cheaper prices for consumers. Mr Morley is a kind of combine harvester when it

THE SKETCH

**THOMAS** SUTCLIFFE

comes to parliamentary questions; stream of reassurances and they go in the front and out of the processed statistics. If you want something a little more human in

natter over a five-barred gate, you have to wait for Jeff Rooker. He was positively hugger-mugger after a owners - apparently faced with costs. I have to choose my words carefully, said Mr Rooker, "because of the lawyers and our friends across the water", but owners should wait to see what happened before panicking. He didn't quite lay his finger along his nose and wink but it wasn't far short. Mr Bradshaw looked unconvinced.

The minister was even less plau-

manner, more redolent of a quiet sible on the Government's repeated claim that the experimental planting of GM plants only amounts to "two football pitches". The footstrong intervention from Ben Brad- ball pitch has clearly been chosen shaw on behalf of small abattoir as a New Labour unit of measurement because it has the right demassive increases in inspection motic ring and delivers a low number. Suggestions that the acreage be described as one and a third polo pitches were dismissed and it was felt paraphrasing the area as 105 croquet lawns might be alarming. They'll have to think of something else, because Tory backbenchers have rumbled that the number is so low only because it is winter and nothing has been plant-

ed yet. In a few months, James Gray said, something more like 400 football pitches would be burgeoning with alien plant forms. Get ready for the golf course standard unit.

The front bench is not exactly consistent on food prices either, trapped between its double constituency of producers and consumers. The reform package was apparently good news because it would lower prices but Mr Rooker later noted that prices for British pork had been rising. "That's a wel-come trend", he said, "and we will do all we can to promote it". Vote Labour - and we'll put up the price of your Sunday roast.

Tories

Budget leaflet

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

condemn

PARLIAMENT'S FINANCIAL watchdog has been called on to investigate claims that the

Government wasted taxpayers' money on misleading "pro-

paganda" about the Budget.

The Tories lodged a formal

complaint with Sir John Bourn,

the Comptroller and Auditor

General, about more than a

million leaflets issued by the

Treasury summarising the tax

The Chancellor. Gordon

Brown, had wanted to send

the leaflets to every one of

Britain's 24 million households,

but decided to issue just

1.25 million to Post Offices,

libraries and universities after

Shadow Chancellor, said that

the leaflet was still a misuse of

money because it gave a biased

and inaccurate picture of the

In a letter to Sir John, who

heads the National Audit Office.

Mr Maude said that the leaflet

omitted key measures that

were likely to prove unpopular,

such as higher stamp duty fuel

taxes and alterations to na-

tional insurance contributions

Information about the new children's tax credit did not

higher-rate taxpayers: Other

ts of the leadet contras the high interest rates of the

for the self-employed.

today's levels.

Budget.

But Francis Maude, the

Treasury officials objected:

# Education cash 'wasted on gimmicks'

GORDON BROWN'S failure to invest more money in education in Tuesday's Budget came under fire yesterday from all sides of the House.

David Willetts, the Conservative Education spokesman, led the attack, complaining that expenditure limits were essentially unchanged from those set previously.

Education, David Blunkett be hard to persuade party rebutted the claims, saying lowincome families could soon be the basic rate of income tax able to buy computers at dis- rather than spend money on count prices in a drive to bridge the gap between the "computer haves and have nots".

He added that the initiative was part of a £400m package announced in the Budget to encourage greater computer literacy and a £20m scheme was educational sidised loans for teachers to buy computers. But, during yesterday's debate on Budget education spending, Mr Willetts argument because the money said that the extra cash had already been outlined as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review in July 1998.

£129.99

DIGITAL CORDLESS

PHONE TECHNOLOGY

BY SARAH SCHAEFFER Political Reporter

school to buy books were a "classic example", he said. The Government did not trust schools to operate their own budgets and instead was interested only in funding "gimmicks", he added Some Labour But the Secretary of State for backbenchers are worried it will members to support a 1p cut in health and education.

Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat Education spokesman, said instead of cutting the basic rate of income tax to 22p, an investment in education would have a "direct impact on standards" being set up to provide sub- because of the link between poor education and poverty.

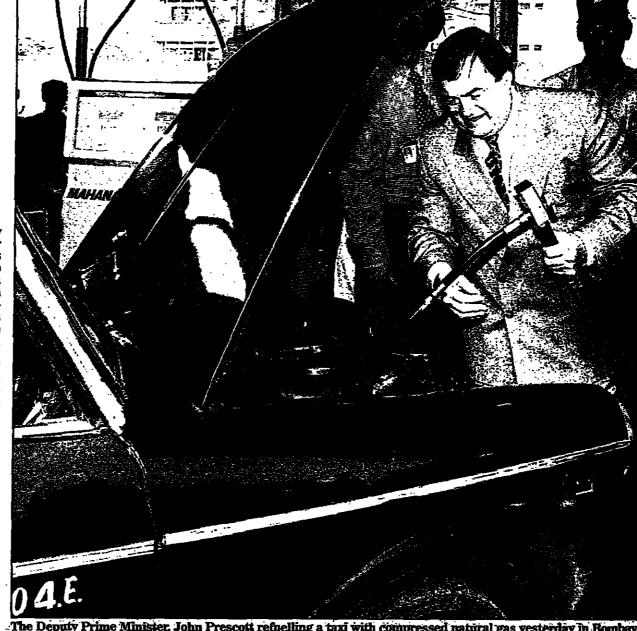
Mr Blunkett insisted there was a "crucial flaw" in this was not part of a £19bn sum given to education last summer. "On top of that the Treasury have allocated an additional

Mr Foster said his party welcomed extra money for books but suggested schools should have been allowed to decide how to spend the extra money themselves. He claimed helping teachers to obtain laptop computers would mean only a 4 per cent increase in the numbers with access to laptops, from 2.5 per cent.

Ian Pearson, the Labour MP for Dudley South expressed concern that road hauliers would suffer from the increased duty on fuel. In five to 10 years time, people would wonder why more money was not invested in cleaner fuel technology "rather than penalising our road haulage industry", he said.

Mr Pearson said: "We are spending £6.1bn as a Government on research and development – less than 2.5 per cent of that is going to the experimental development gap.

"If we are going to get better at turning inventions into innovations and commercially exploiting them, then we have really got to look at the main funding streams in Britain," Mr Pearson added.



The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott refuelling a taxi with compressed natural gas yesterday in Bombay. His visit to India, with a delegation of businessmen, aims to improve trade with India.

## Push-button voting on trial next year

ELECTORAL REFORM By Paul Waugh

Political Correspondent

ELECTRONIC VOTING could be introduced to Britain for the first time next year under radical plans announced by the Government yesterday to speed up election results.

Traditional pencil and ballot paper voting could be replaced by European-style computerised booths that allow electors to cast their vote at the touch of a button. The new system is set to be tested in the elections for London's Mayor and Assembly in May next year, Nick Raynsford, the Minister for London, announced in

the House of Commons. Mr Raynsford told MPs that he was looking into the possibility of using new systems to improve the efficiency of the voting process. In a written Parliamentary reply, Mr Raynsford revealed that the Department of the Environment,

Plea over bank

account scam

DENNIS SKINNER, Labour

MP for Bolsover, urged the

Government to "sort out" a

loophole allowing crooks to

move cash from someone

else's bank account. He

said a television inquiry

to siphon money from

Odd couple

MP for Linlithgow, in

criticising continued air

Peer pressure

THE GOVERNMENT lost in

the Lords as peers, during

the detailed report stage of

Commission Bill, backed a

Tory demand for the new

the Disability Rights

Disability Rights

had shown how easy it was

accounts using the holder's

name and account number.

NICHOLAS SOAMES, former

Tory armed forces minister,

joined Tam Dalyell, Labour

strikes against Iraq without

the authority of Parliament.

Mr Raynsford: Aiming to improve efficiency

Transport and the Regions had yesterday invited tenders for the work in the Tenders Electronic Daily publication.

"This would enable votes in the first Greater London Authority elections to be electronically recorded and counted. The new authority will be modern, streamlined and efficient and we should

THE HOUSE

Commission to have the

Government but also its

agencies on the practical

application of any law.

**Gut reaction** 

THE COMMONS suffered an

upset when Lucy, David

government frontbench

during a speech by his

opposition shadow, David

Willetts. Liberal Democrat

education spokesman Don

Foster later referred to

Lucy's behaviour in his

saying he often felt a

said Lucy was "fine".

contribution to the debate,

"sense of nausea" when Mr

Willetts spoke. Mr Blunkett

Blunkett's guide-dog, was

sick on the carpet near the

right to advise not only the

be introduced unless they were rigorously tested first. "Our priority is to run a successful election on 4 May 2000 so we will be looking at systems which have proved extremely work towards a voting system to match," Mr Raynsford said.

reliable in national or regional elections elsewhere," he said.

national elections.

A CONTROVERSIAL new logo for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, described by critics as a mere "blob" will cost £26,000 rather than £79,000, as originally reported, the

Two weeks off

THE LEADER of the House of Commons, Margaret Beckett announced that the Commons will rise on Wednesday, 31 March for the Easter break, returning on Tuesday 13 April. The Lords rises on the same day but returns a day earlier on Monday, 12 April

AN EXTRA £1m is being allocated for Scottish law and order, mainly to cover costs connected with holding a trial in the Netherlands of the

#### completely the need for re-Mr Maude also called on Sir Andrew Turnbull, the permacounts that often delay results in marginal seats for hours. If nent secretary at the Treasury, the measures work for London, to investigate "this flagrant they could be introduced to However, Mr Raynsford stressed that no changes would

ty of the Civil Service."

abuse of taxpayers' money". The Tories yesterday also claimed that the Budget would hit pensioner couples hard with

its scrapping of the married couples allowance (MCA).

Iam Duncan Smith, the Tory social security spokesman, said that the Chancellor had failed to publicise the fact that all pensioners from next year would lose the MCA.

## Cost of logo 'only £26,000'

Secretary of State, Chris Smith said yesterday.

more complex than normal

polls, with voters facing a pro-

portional system for mayor,

single-member constituency

As well as computer keypad

voting booths, the Government

is also considering introducing

electronic counting machines to

replace the current method of

counting by hand. Both tech-

niques are aimed at removing

assembly members and top-up

assembly members.

Lockerble cost

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Lockerbie bombing suspects, the Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar disclosed. Two hundred and seventy people were killed as a result of the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jumbo jet which crashed on to the market town of Lockerbie.

Today's Agenda Commons: 9,20am

Backbench Business: Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland)

■ Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill, second Short debate on administration of subsidy payments to farmers, Lords: Not sitting.



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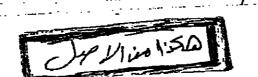
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additional handsets

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Molution

Tories administration with Mr Maude said the leaflets should be independently scrutinised by Parliament. "Gordon Brown's leaflet takes Budget mis-selling to new levels of deception. It is littered with party political propaganda, omissions and irrelevancies," he said. "After the Chancellor's stealth Budget', the British are being bombarded with the stealth leaflet. It purports to be a factual summary of the Budget from Her Majesty's Treasury, but in truth it is a disgrace to the traditions of impartiali-

maid, something more like 400 for buil pitches would be burgening with alara plant forms. Get ready in the golf course standard mit.

The front brach is not each government team to participated between its double on stitutency of producers and on the reform package was bounded by representative by the producers and on the package was been a special biotech. Applicantly good news because it is and medical biotechnologies that the prices for Bridge and the prices for Bridge have not yet been made public.

The initiative aims to boost sands trade, he right and se all lands that because he received the right and se all lands that the received to will are can to bromote in the Fighton grad and but the later and

# Lord Sainsbury to head biotech team

LORD SAINSBURY, the minister BY FRAN ABRAMS at the centre of the recent controversy over genetically modified (GM) food, is to head a government team to promote GM food companies, The

Westminster Correspondent

"clusters" of biotechnology companies that have sorung up in Oxford, Cambridge and Dundee. Lord Sainsbury has major interests in companies developing the technology for GM foods. These interests are now in a blind trust and he has

promised not to get involved in

policy-making on GM food, But

for leading a biotechnology trade mission to Korea and for sitting on a cabinet sub-committee dealing with the issue.

News of the initiative drew an angry reaction from environmental campaigners, including the Liberal Democrat Norman Baker, MP for Lewes. Mr Baker said that the Government had given assurances that Lord Sainsbury would not

cussions on the subject. "Either he is involved and we have been lied to, or he is a lame duck chairman because he can't talk about these things. He should be replaced," he said.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Trade and Industry said that the group would only deal "very remotely" with GM food issues. "The policy issues here are about promoting

he has already been criticised be involved in decisions or dis-industry within the cluster arrangement. It isn't about promoting GM foods," she said.

The group is to visit Cambridge, Oxford, Scotland and two US-based biotechnology clusters. It will also hold brainstorming meetings with industry, planning authorities, science park managers and universities. Officials from the Department of Trade and Industry will make informationwill publish a report.

Among the companies in the Cambridge biotechnology cluster is Axis Genetics, which is developing vaccines from plants. Its chief executive, lain Cubitt, sat on the board of the Sainsbury Laboratory, which is financed by the Science minister's charity, the Gatsby Foundation.

Other firms that could be involved include Plant Breeding

gathering visits, and the team International in Cambridge, charge of another government which runs a number of test sites for GM crops, and the Scottish Crop Research Insti-

tute in Dundee. The Science minister has been looking increasingly embattled as revelations about his role appear to contradict his statements on the issue. Lord Sainsbury, whose shareholdblind trust, has also taken

consultation to which the issue of GM food and crops is central.

The Government has asked the polisters Mori to run a series of focus groups to canvas public opinion on GM crops, genetic testing and cloning.

Lord Sainsbury chaired a conference on the consultation ing in the supermarket is in a a discussion on it in a cabinet

# Budget revolution leaflet

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

Remain, had wanted by Although her hallmark style the traffets to every sei. As though her hallmark style Restaure 14 million bushed date it every season, so it is al-

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# condem in constant

Radical chic

SONIA Rykiel, the godmother By REBECCA LOWITHORPE of French fashion, showed her in Paris Autumn/Winter 2000 collection in Paris yesterday. Rykiel opened her first boutique in PART. LAMENTS FINANCE Paris on the Lett Bank in Law, watchdog has been called in the year of the student uprising, investigate claims that investigate claims that for having dressed that Government wasted tops revolution, introducing easy, or money on misleaders revolution, introducing easy, ers money on misleading in unstructured clothes that were paganda" about the Bulgit The Tories lodged a limit control and with Sir John Long to see simulating the size of size of size of size at the size of size of

confiplant with Sir John Sir Her basic signature has the Comptroller and the changed little since then, and changed little since then, and tirraral about more to her flagship store remains a million leaflets issued by landmark on the fashionable Treasury summarising her boulevard Saint-Germain, only a stone's throw away from the The Chancellor Got original boutique.

hut decided to issue ways fresh and of the moment.
175 million to Post Office Yesterday's show was illustrates and universities particularly fine. She updated

Treat un officials objected her great knitwear with Mon-Hall Francis Mank & golian lamb collars that kissed Shadow Charcelle site the models faces as they the scatter was still among sashayed down the runway. control because a create. Indeed, lips featured throughand massurate parent out the collection - in a typical witty twist, diamanté liostick in a letter to Er Johns prints were appliqued onto

Rykiel's clothes are predominantly black; they are also typically French. But this time around, she introduced more vivid colour to her collection: flashes of magenta, purple and orange lifted the proceedings, best seen gracing metallic spike-heeled boots.

For evening, the little black dress came out in all its guises and to suit all shapes and sizes of women - Rykiel is a mistress of this particular craft. In devoré or matt crepe jersey, they were slashed to the navel. split to the thigh and either super-sexy or the height of Parisian elegance. When the designer appeared

at the end of her show, flanked by models, she reached out to her audience like the queen of France. She is extraordinary. Aged almost 70 and still a working mother, her hair is as flame-red as it ever was, her make up as dramatic, and her clothes as desirable. She is nerhans the best advertisement of them of all. Is the supermodel era over?

Review, page 8





Models at Thierry Mugler's 1999/2000 Autumn/Winter show yesterday wearing headdresses in velvet and satin, left, and lace

## Child death inquiry reopens

By CHRIS HAMILTON

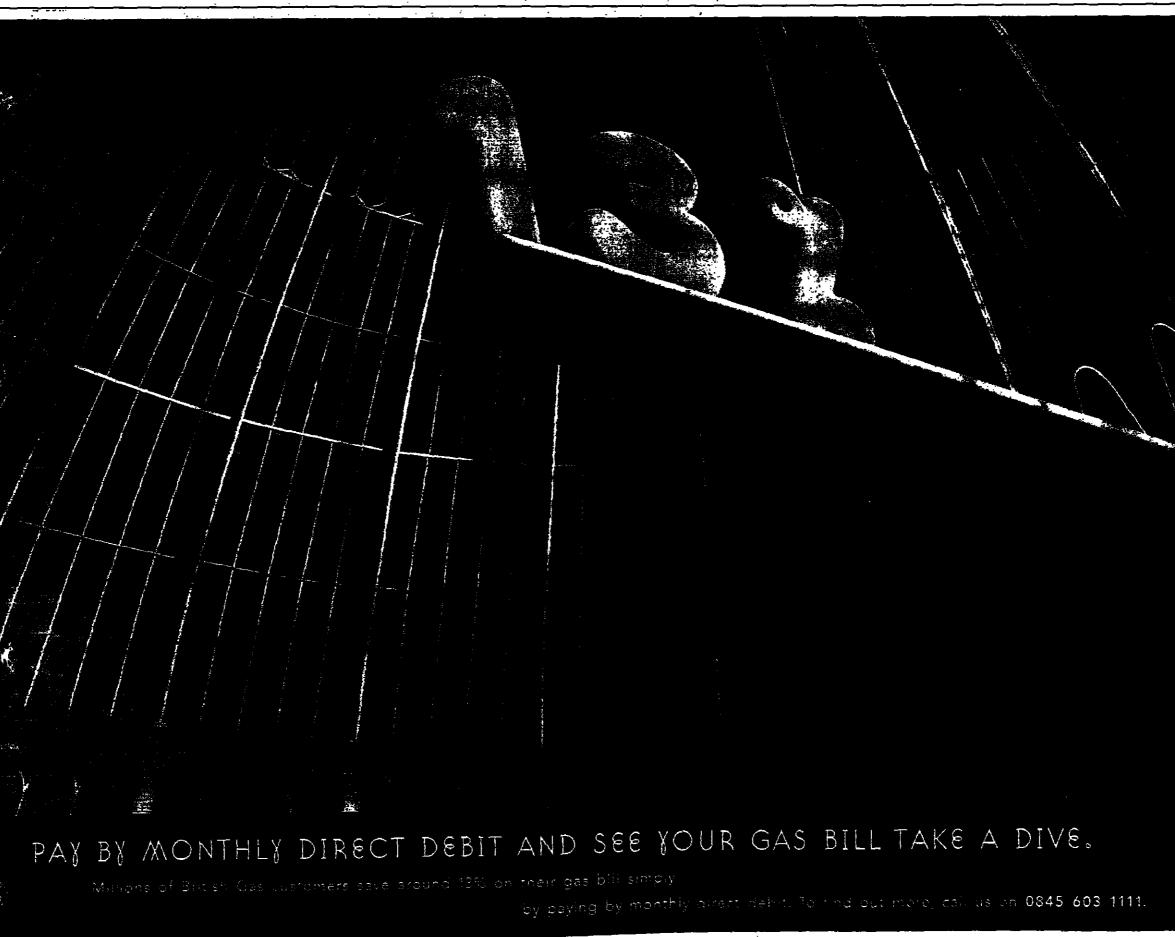
THE BODY of one of two "Babes in the Wood" children who died 29 years ago has been exhumed by detectives thought to be investigating paedophile involvement in their deaths.

Susan Blatchford, 11, van ished with her 12-year-old school friend Gary Hanlon from their homes at Enfield, north London, in March 1970. Their bodies were found in a local copse 11 weeks later.

The cause of their deaths was never established, but police and the parents are convinced they were murdered.

The case was re-opened in 1984, after newspaper cuttings and photographs of young girls thought to be the victims of sex attacks were found at a bouse in the Home Counties, and again in 1996. Scotland Yard said yesterday that officers had dug up Susan's body from St James's Church in Enfield last week "in connection with a murder inquiry in 1970". A spokeswoman added: "There was a forensic examination. No arrests have been made.

Susan's mother Muriel Blatchford, now 78, was said to be "absolutely devastated" at the exhumation.



KEEPING PRICES ON LOW.

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# Council tax rises 'twice inflation'

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT was accused of taxing Britain "by stealth" yesterday when a new survey claimed that council taxes across the country would rise by more than twice the rate of inflation.

The Tories attempted to take the shine off the Budget announced by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, on Tuesday by seizing on a report which found that councils in England and Wales were about to put up bills by 6.9 per cent.

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accoun- ers face a rise of £106, or 17 per tants (CTPFA) found that an average band D home would face the rise when bills for 1999-2000 drop through letterboxes next

The survey found wide variations around the country, with but a smaller rise in government grant will necessitate £1,171 for an average home and Westminster the cheapest local taxpavers.

Following a survey of 92 per cent of all authorities, the CIPFA found that millions of average households would be paying an extra £51 a year. However, the average figures hide some huge differences between individual authorities which have been caused by historical levels of cuts and

1999-2000 PREDICTIONS

Average Band D Tax for Homes worth between

zes,000 to zes,000, by local authority							
Most expensive	10	Least expensive 10					
Liverpool	£1,171	Kensington and Chelsea	£580				
Redcar and Cleveland	£1,032	Cardiff	£572				
North Lincolnshire	£997	Torfaen	£583				
Bristol	£992	Powys	£551				
Manchester	£987	Pembrokeshire	£542				
Salford	£980	Corp of Landon	£536				
Hartiepool	£978	Vale of Glamorgan	£532				
Newcastle upon Tyne	£977	Newport	£530				
Wirral	£977	Wandsworth	£373				
Knowsley	£970	Westminster	350				
_							

more than £100 a year higher

than when Labour came to

power - a stealth tax of £2 a

State for the Environment,

Transport and the Regions]

likes to pretend that this year's

settlement was the most gen-

erous ever. But he hasn't given

councils enough money to fund

the raft of expensive promises

which Labour made. Now the

British people have to pick up

that similar predictions about

council tax rises last year had

not come true. Bills had been

forecast to go up by 11 or 12 per cent, but turned out to be some-

thing over 8 per cent, he said.

biggest funding increase ever

Councils had received their

However, Mr Prescott said

"John Prescott (Secretary of

week," he said.

The largest increase in real taxes on ordinary families are terms will be in South Camcent, on average. By contrast, Hackney, Islington, Greenwich and even Liverpool will have bills frozen. Councils claim that their budgets will have to go up by an average of 5.3 per cent, more money being made up by

Richard Ottaway, the Tory spokesman on local govern-ment, said that rural areas would be hardest hit because the funding formula had been "fiddled" to shift funds from Tory areas to urban Labour heartlands.

"These latest figures show that the Government is imposing yet another stealth tax on

hard-working people. Council

said. "People are now predicting council tax rises. I don't get the information from councils until the 17th [of March]. I must wait for the information. Until councils come to their decisions, you can't make the assessment," he told BBC Radio 4's Today programme. Mr Prescott has warned that

record money for education, he

boroughs which push up bills by more than 4.5 per cent will face budget capping, but he will not apply "crude and universal" caps as the previous govern-

The Liberal Democrat local vernment spokesman, Paul Burstow, said councils faced a "serious shortfall" in their budgets which they would have to make up to ensure that education and social services were property funded.

"Once again, the Govern-ment have used spin and false accounting to hide a Treasuryled attack on our public services, leaving council bosses to take the blame for Gordon Brown's spending decisions."

The worst hit areas will be in East Anglia, where bills will go up by 9.6 per cent. Wales (14.8 per cent), the West Midlands (9.1 per cent) and the South-east (8.8 per cent).

The lowest rises will be in the North and North-west, both of which will see taxes go up by for the coming year, including 7.3 per cent.

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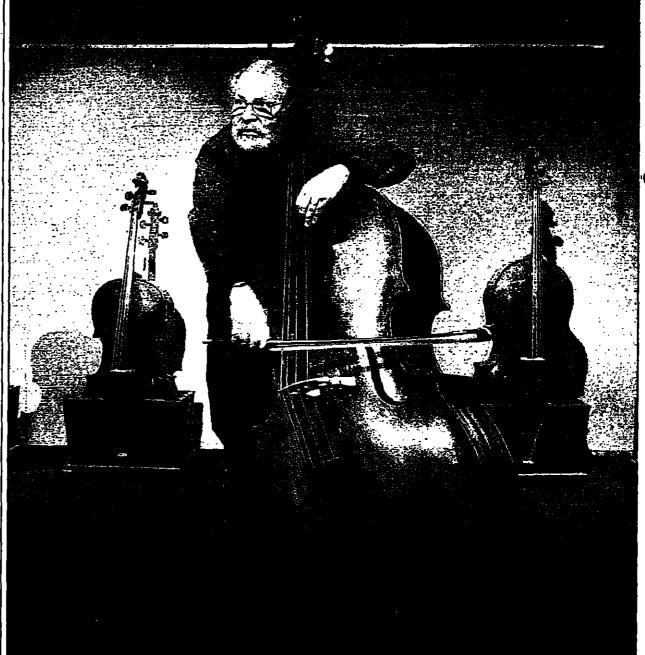
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Tom Martin, former principal bassist with the London Symphony Orchestra, trying out a Domenico Montagnana double bass, made around 1747, which is expected to fetch up to £350,000 at Sotheby's on Tuesday *Tom Pilston* 

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## Maxwell cleared of contempt of court

disgraced media tycoon Robert Maxwell, was yesterday cleared of allegations of contempt of court over his refusal to be interrogated by inspectors investigating the Mirror Group.

Court judge, represents a considerable victory for Mr Maxongoing inquiries. Mr Maxwell had argued that Mr Maxwell in advance what because he had been refused they wanted to ask him about. legal aid to appoint a solicitor while being questioned, he had

vestigators. As a result of this he was charged with contempt. While yesterday's decision will not keep Mr Maxwell away from the investigators, it means they will have to inform him of their questions in advance and

abide by other formalities. Yesterday Vice-Chancellor

KEVIN MAXWELL, son of the BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

potential burden the questioning could place on Mr Maxwell was "at risk of going beyond that which an unrepresented individual can reasonably be The decision, by a High required to accept". Sir Richard said the inspectors - appointed by the Department of Trade and well after an eight-year saga of Industry - should keep their questions to a minimum and tell

> If this was done, Mr Maxwell would have no further excuse

Later, Mr Maxwell, eldest son of the former owner of Mirror Group Newspapers, emerged from court saying he thought the decision was a victory for common sense. "Unless they change their procedures.

swer if they created a set of fair procedures and a fair regime. Now the court has decided to protect me as an individual."

Two inspectors, Sir Roger Thomas and Raymond Turner, were appointed by the DTI in June 1992 to investigate the affairs of MGN, with particular regard to the £500m flotation of the company in 1991. The investigation was sus-

pended when Mr Maxwell and others stood trial on charges brought by the Serious Fraud Office over his father's business alings. It resumed after he was acquitted on all counts. A spokesman for the DTI

said after yesterday's ruling that it was now hoping for a speedy conclusion to the investigation. "We are hopeful that this decision will have brothere is no obligation on me to ken the impasse and that the answer questions," he said. "I inspectors will now be able to Sir Richard Scott said that the have always said I would an question Mr Maxwell," he said.

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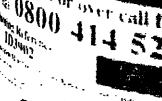
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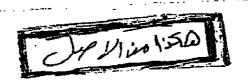
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# Race begins to make first baby of 2000

THE FIRST bandwagon of the BY PAUL MCCANN new millennium is already starting to look crowded thanks to newspapers, radio stations and television channels jumpstarting the race for the first British baby of 2000.

Next week sees the start of a conception countdown. If cou- at the start of the millennium." ples conceive between 17 March and the end of April they have the best chance of bringing in the new year with a new baby.

To exploit the hype and get uples in the mood, Classic 20 March. And on 10 April, ITV will devote an entire evening of sex and conception.

The BBC is planning a Tomorrow's World special in April expectant couples and single mothers who have a 1 January

"A lot of people are looking for the next Seven-Up," said a year, the money could BBC insider, referring to the long-running Michael Apted Piers Morgan, editor

Media Editor

documentary series that has followed a generation of chilgo back to and follow throughout their lives from their birth

ITV is calling its series Birthrace 2000 in acknowledgement that there is likely to be a winner from all the bedroom activity taking place over the next six weeks, for the first born will see the recipient of media inter-evening of "smooth classics" on est and, of course, money. est and, of course, money.

"The first baby will be set up for life," said the celebrity pubprogrammes to the subject of licist Max Clifford. "The newsalready interested in it and if you manage it correctly the which will forecast the future family could get themselves a lives of those born next year new house, a house filled with And later in the year both the sponsors' free gifts and a great BBC and ITV will be looking for deal of money over a long period of time. You could sell the family's story and photographs due date to follow through their to magazines and newspapers and have follow-up documentaries every year. In the first year, the money could range

Mirror, agrees that the first baby's story will be attractive to newspapers: "It will be massive. It's like the best name drop in history to be able to say I was the first person born this millemium'. I honestly think the family could make £1m easily."

But as usual the combination of money and media is not trouble free. "The first story will be the row over which baby is actually the first,"Mr Morgan said. "If you can find a surgeon to give you an elective Caesarean on the stroke of midnight it could all get horribly distasteful and we'll all run stories on the competing claims

Jack Hanford Playing Harry the precocious shopper in Safeway's TV advertisements made Jack (now six) Britain's highest paid child actor, with £30,000 for 60 ads.

ister methods."

The Royal College of Obste-

tricians said yesterday it would lems. Elective Caesareans are would be staffing problems at

The Walton sextuplets sisters, now teenagers, who have had deals with a interview after the birth of Lourdes to OK!

the timing and all sorts of sin-forming Caesareans at night. formed during ordinary working cerns about the effect of the mil-boom, but no amount of sexy "There are common-sense hours," said Professor James

leanium bug on equipment. We music or money can guarante e grounds as well as ethical prob- Drife of the college. "There would definitely discourage it." The media might be en- mothers give birth on their be advising doctors against per- most successful when per- midnight and even some con- couraging a new-year baby- due date.



#### Britain's best-known multiple births are the Walton Madonna set a celebrity standard selling her first chemists, a car firm and a baby food manufacturer. magazine in November 1996 for a six-figure sum

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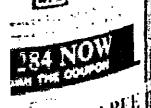
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# ared of Why your TV remote is annoying

dentist, did you feel comfortable in the chair? You should have - it is designed to be more like a bed. But the last time you ate in a fast-food outlet, you were phably not able to sit on the minutes without finding yourself sliding off. That is no surprise: uncomfortable chairs mean a faster turnover for

such organisations. Such subtle elements of design - the "ergonomics" of products - are the focus of a new exhibition that starts today, the beginning of Science Week, in the Science Museum in London.

Yet although the importance of ergonomics has become increasingly recognised in the past 50 years, many products are still marketed without posing essential questions about their final use, said Tom Stewart, managing director of System Concepts, a London-based ergonomics consultancy. "The classic one is the video

recorder," he said. "The problem is that it is trying to squeeze too much functionality into too small a space on the remote control, so it ends up impossible to use.

"It's the same thing with washing machines that have 25 programmes - in fact, after three months you will find you only use three or four. But when

THE LAST time you visited the BY CHARLES ARTHUR

buying, we have a tendency to think that more must be better."

Although the term "ergonomics" was coined in 1857. when it appeared in a Polish newspaper, it was mostly applied to people at work until the Second World War. Then designers became interested in aircraft cockpit design, after which their expertise was applied in a wide range of other fields.

It is now 50 years since the United Kingdom's Ergonomics Society, which is a co-sponsor of the new exhibition, was formed. Even so, Mr Stewart said, companies still ignore the lessons of ergonomics in product design.

The exhibition will feature interactive exhibits such as the British Standard Dog (whose measurements are used for designing objects which will affect dogs) and a buttock mea-surer, which lets visitors see how their nether ends compare to industry standards.

Mr Stewart was due to attend the opening but instead will be watching milkmen at ! work as part of a project which could redesign the traditional milkfloat. What lessons has he learnt from it so far? "First, it's different in different cities but they all work at night," he said. "and secondly, it's bloody cold."

#### BETTER BY DESIGN?

On average, two baby buggles are bought for every baby born in the United Kingdom - because the first one often does not suit the new parents' needs for storage, carriage and ease of use.

RSi, or Repetitive Strain Injury, became an Important topic among computer operators in the Eighties. But a similar condition was recognised in 702 among scribes copying manuscripts.

Flowerpots can be more hazardous than wheelbarrows. In 1996, 159 people were admitted to hospital following flowerpot-related accidents; but only 77 following accidents involving wheelbarrows, according to a government survey.

Most mobile phones have far more technological capability than they are used for: four out of five people only use them to dial numbers by hand.

The term ergonomics was coined in 1857, when it appeared in a Polish newspaper. Nowadays it is also called "human factors design".

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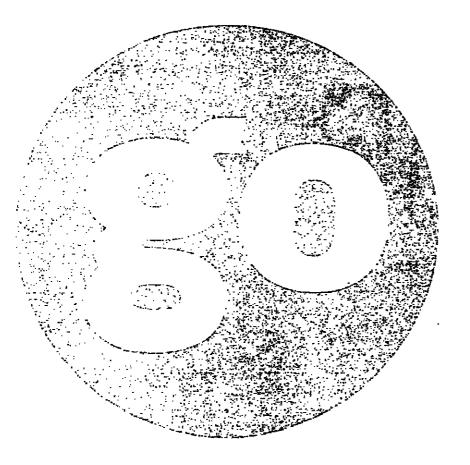
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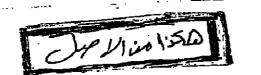


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# Hillary walks out on Bill! Perhaps

WHO SAID it was all over? Pres- BY DAVID USBORNE ident Bill Clinton may have in New York survived his impeachment ordeal, and Monica Lewinsky One tabloid newspaper, one may have left for England - if television cable channel and only temporarily - but wait: one well-known internet sleuth Hillary Clinton has decided enough is enough with all this Lady had finally read the riot infidelity and is ready to leave act to her husband. She could President ... perhaps.

\For a brief moment yesterday it seemed as if the big puz- Remember how last week the zle of the First Couple's marriage had been resolved.

were all reporting it: the First not stand being with him.

The details were compelling. Clintons returned from a skiing weekend in Utah a day early? That was because of a huge row that ended with Mrs Clinton storming out of their vacation accommodation demanding that her staff pack

And remember the excuse given for her deciding not to accompany her husband this week drick. An Arkansas businessto Central America - the back woman, she says she was raped strain that was exacerbated by 21 years ago in Arkansas by the skiing? Baloney. The truth now: Hillary Clinton had at last done what most wives would have direct from the First Lady: "I

done acons ago: she had blown

"CHILLARY", exclaimed the front page of yesterday's New York Post newspaper. The bustup, it informed readers, was precipitated by the post-Monica claims from Juanita Broadthen attorney-general Clinton. The Post offered this quote,

room with him, let alone the same bed". It then attributed the quote to a "TV news report". Nobody yesterday could sensibly judge the veracity of the story. The White House rubbished it, but possibly it is true.

However, there were reasons why no other news organisation touched it, including the sourcing of the information. There was not any. The television news report said that those Mrs Clinton had in fact been telayed by "sources close" to her

The television station in uestion, meanwhile, turned out to be Fox News Channel, the fledgling all-news-all-of-the-time endeavour launched by Rupert Murdoch, who happens to own the New York Post. The Internet sleuth is Matt Drudge, who also offers a version of the story on his now infamous web page. And where does Mr Drudge appear

explosive words from the lips of regularly as a commentator? The Fox News Channel

Behind this story is a furious battle between the three 24hour news channels, Fox, MSNBC - owned by NBC Microsoft-and CNN. All have seen their ratings nosedive since the end of Morricagate and the impeachment trial. Fox. however. is seen by some as best placed to regain its footing and for one reason - it is unabashedly conservative and anti-Clinton.

Just this week, Fox unveiled a \$4m (£2.5m) promotion. On Monday meanwhile, it received heartening news. For the first time, it had overtaken MSNBC in the daily viewership figures. If Fox sees the chance to stip past its rival in the battle for households, what better story than this to give it a turbo-boost? And who can prove them wrong? "Hillary and Bill Deeply in Love Again". Now that would be a story. Deborah Orr, Review, page 5

## Pope discusses morality with Iranian leader

MOHAMMAD KHATAMI, the By Frances Kennedy Vranian President, capped a ground-breaking visit to Europe yesterday with a private audi-

ence with the Pope. The two leaders, clad in opposing black and cream robes, met for half an hour in the pontiff's private studio. A Vatican statement described the talks as an "important and promising" contribution to dialogue be-

tween Christianity and Islam. President Khatami, a politically moderate Shia Muslim, told the Pope he hoped for the victory of monotheism, ethics and morality. He later met the Vatican Secretary of State, Angelo Sodano, who raised the issue of human rights in Iran. The Vatican said the two men also discussed the situation of Christians and Muslims in the Middle East as a whole. Mr Khatami is also leader of the 55-nation Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

During yesterday's unprecedented meeting about a hundred Iranian dissidents staged a noisy protest in a street near St Peter's, chanting "Khatami, terrorist". Despite security precautions, protesters managed to hurl an egg filled with red paint at the car in which President Khata-

mi was travelling At the end of his visit to the Vatican, Mr Khatami present-

six videos of a popular Iranian television series which described the tribulations of Christians persecuted by the Romans in what is now Iran.

The Pope, who, aides say, hardly ever watches television. gave Mr Khatami a bronze relief depicting the apostles Peter

Mr Khatami used his visit to appeal to Western nations to treat Iran as an international equal and to dispel its image as an intolerant country sympa-

thetic to anti-Western terrorists. He is also seeking support for Iran's lagging economy, and signed accords with Italy covering co-operation, foreign investment and the fight against the drugs trade. The President held talks with business leaders, including the head of Italy's energy giant, ENI, which recently signed a big oil deal

His broader goals struck an obvious chord with the Pope, who wants to promote greater collaboration between the great monotheistic taiths. Italy's Foreign Minister,

Lamberto Dini, who is seeking a strategic bridging role for Italy, said that the visit had been "an exceptionally important step in relations not only beed his host with a silk wall-hang- tween Iran and Italy but Iran ing, a book of Islamic verse and and Europe".



The Pope with Iran's President, Mohammad Khatami, in Rome yesterday

## Nato welcomes its former foes

THE LATEST chapter in the BY MARY DEJEVSKY undoing of the Cold War is to be enacted today in Independence Missouri, at the Harry Tru-

man memorial library. Foreign ministers of the three new members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation - the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland - will deposit documents ratifying their countries' acceptance of the treaty terms with the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright. It will mark their formal accession to the alliance and their protection under the mutual security clause they so coveted during the 40-year stand-off between East and

The key section of the treaty - Article 5 – says "an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all".

The State Department says the article comes into force the moment the foreign ministers hand over their countries' instruments of ratification. even though full military integration will take years.

The documents themselves will ultimately be deposited in the National Archive in Wash-

The choice of Independence and the Truman Library as the venue for the formal accession of the first post-Cold War Nato members was the personal wish of Ms Albright, Tru-

in Independence, Missouri

man was president when the US presided over the creation of Nato and then masterminded it through a Congress reluctant to endorse military

His speech at the signing of the original treaty - on 4 April 1949 - and that of his secretary of state, Dean Acheson, are lodged at the Independence li-

The State Department says the three new Nato states appreciate the historical significance of the venue and wanted to join Nato formally as soon as possible after ratifying the treaty and meeting the basic military requirements. Today's ceremony thus meets the interests and aspirations of all the parties.

In recent weeks, however, there have been rumblings of discontent from some of the new member states' Western backers. Their feeling is that a landmark of 20th century history, and one of President Bill Clinton's few foreign-policy triumphs, is being secreted away from public view. They complain that it is being deliberately separated from next month's festivities in Washington, which will both mark the 50th anniversary of Nato and set its fu-

ture course. A senior State Department official denied that there was

any ulterior motive for sepa

rating the two occasions The Czechs, Poles and Hungarians, he said, wanted to be able to participate as full members in the planned discussions about Nato's future. which would be easier if they

vere already full members. He offered no reason why the ceremony could not have been held, for instance, a day before the main gathering, but still clearly within its framework; nor did he explain why it was not held in the vicinity of the White House, where the foreign ministers of the first 12 members signed the original treaty.

For the suspicious, there is a one-word explanation: Russia. For Russia, the expansion of Nato is a bitter pill.

But Russia, as a Nato "partner", will be one of 44 countries next month's commemoration of Nato's 50th anniversary, an event billed by US diplomats as "charting the way for a larger more flexible alliance in the 21st century".

While the intention may be

to demonstrate to Russia that its security is not threatened by a larger Nato, for some there is

The inclusiveness of Nato's birthday party will have been made possible by today's ceremonial in Independence. which perpetuates the very division that Nato expans intended to banish.



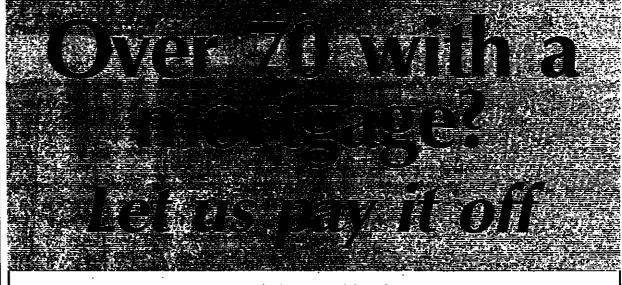
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# Lafontaine goes into a wilderness

HE IS gone but he will be back. By IMRE KARACS Oskar Lafontaine, the physicist who had the confidence to lecture Europe's leading central bankers on banking, bowed out of the centre stage of German politics, convinced that he had been right all along.

nance Minister of Europe's and failing output.

Other Socialists might stop for a moment to ponder why such things were happening. but not "Oskar". He will go on, for the rest of his life, blaming the gnomes of Frankfurt, international currency speculators, and "unfair" - meaning "too low" - taxes in other European Union countries.

We know, because Mr Lafontaine has been here before. In 1990 he was the champion of was seen to be carping about

in Berlin

the Social Democrats against a poorly regarded Helmut Kohl. He lost, but it took some doing, forfeiting as he did the biggest lead a party had ever enjoyed After his four months as Fi- in German electoral history.

But Mr Lafontaine was right, biggest economy, his legacy is as he is happy to tell anyone that of rising unemployment who will care to listen. He had criticised Mr Kohl's formula for bringing the freshly free East into the Federal Republic. The costs, he pointed out, would be enormous, "Nonsense" retorted Mr Kohl as he proceeded to promise "blooming landscapes" in the East within a few

> Mr Lafontaine was right, but no one in those heady days wanted to listen to a chubby Cassandra. He lost because he

rious moment since the end of Minister of Germany's least the Second World War. He was the man, it appeared, who was opposing re-unification.

That year had been a terrible one for Mr Lafontaine. While campaigning for those elections, he had been stabbed in the neck by a deranged woman. The ambulances took a long time coming, as the chancellor-candidate lay in a pool of his own blood. He very nearly died.

Still, the plucky little man from Saarbrücken - lampooned for his looks and haughty demeanour as "Bonaparte of the Saar" - soldiered on, digging his political grave deeper every step of the way.

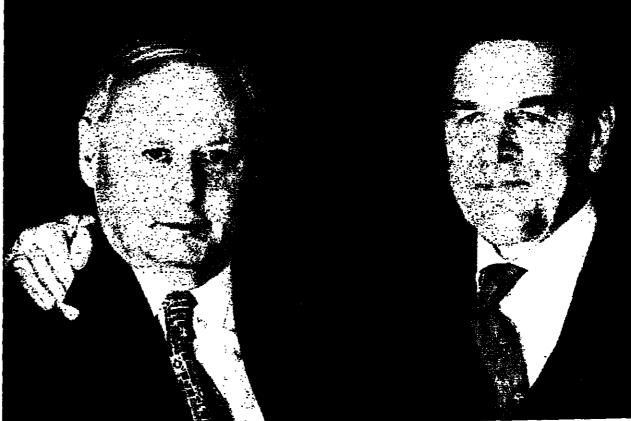
When the dust eventually settled on those elections, Mr Lafontaine retreated to his home region, seeking solace a certain Gerhard Schröder,

the German nation's most glo- from his role as the Prime significant Land. He fell into a depression - for a long time sinping more of his beloved Burgundy than he perhaps should have - and faded from the national picture. But then, slowly, he clawed his way back.

On the leftist firebrand circuit, there is no one quite like him. Even in those dark days, Mr Lafontaine could wrap a crowd around his fingers in an instant. But surely, the people said, he would not come back to national politics.

He did, pouring into a vacuum at the top of the party in 1995. In the interim, other Social Democrats had had a go against Mr Kohl and been burnt. Mr Lafontaine felt ready for the second round.

It did not happen, because of



Mr Lafontaine (left) with Mr Schröder last year. The Chancellor seemed stunned last night by the resignation

who many in the party felt did not have much to offer, except the prospect of victory. And so the comrades

weighed up the pros and cons: time last year, it was clear that substance, and his leftist Mr Lafontaine would be good for socialism, they thought, but only if he were elected. By this

Oskar's sex appeal was limited deputy having too much of the to a narrow section of hardcore SPD supporters.

Their votes alone could not dislodge Mr Kohl

It must have been bitterly disappointing for Mr Lafontaine to hear this kind of advice from his closest friends. electoral pull, he stepped out of to hide. the ring.

fontaine refused to draw the correct conclusions.

He treated the party's elecvictory. Now was his chance to implement the kind of socialist vision he had been dreaming up nance ministry. over the past decade, aided by his wife Christa Müller, an arch-Keynesian economist.

Thus did Germany end up

wrong kind.

He did, however, render one useful service. As chairman of the party, he kept leftist critics at bay. With him gone, there is no one to deflect the wrath of the party, forever suspicious of Mr Schröder's "New Centre". Confronted with Mr Schröder's And Mr Schröder has nowhere

The Chancellor looked stun-The rest might have been ned last night as he presided history, except that Mr La- over the shortest press conference of his life. Today the party leadership is to choose Mr Lafontaine's successors, for it toral triumph as a personal is unlikely that any one person can fill those two vacancies - at the head of the party and the fi-

Mr Schröder will now try to grab the chairmanship of the party. But whether he succeeds or not, it will be a lot harder with a nightmare ticket of a cen- from now on to keep the rank trist Chancellor lacking any and file in line.

## Relief spreads across Europe at resignation

By Stephen Castle

RARELY HAS one politician made such an impact in Europe in such a short time, and rarely has one gained such notoriety in so many quarters.

Oskar Lafontaine, dubbed by one British tabloid as the "most dangerous man in Europe", sparked the biggest ideological debate over the continent's economic policy in years. But his achievements are questionable and his departure leaves the German government in disarray, only two weeks before a vital summit, called to resolve the seemingly intractable problems of Europe's financing. German prestige has taken a battering at a crucial time, halfway through both its EU and Group of Seven presidencies. It is also a key moment in the EU's history, the Agenda 2000 discussions to

expand and reform the Union. In the corridors of Brussels. not many tears will be shed for to call it the 'H' word." an outspoken figure who brought controversy to the usually drab discussions of the finance ministers' council, Ecofin. One diplomat summed up his contribution last night, saying simply: "He was a disaster".

Even as Europe was launching the new single currency, Mr Lafontaine paid little heed to the sensitivities of the exercise. Indeed tact and diplomacy were in rather short supply.

Despite his position as Germany's Finance Minister, he failed to turn up to the launch party of the Euro on New Year's Eve on the basis that he had already booked an overseas holiday. When he was rumoured to be in the running for the presidency of the European Commission he failed to quash the stories. But it was on policy that Mr Lafontaine's presence was most widely felt. Adversaries included the

British Chancellor, Gordon Brown, who fell foul of Mr Lafontaine's desire to harmonise business taxes, and remove the effects of "social dumping" - where countries give preferential tax concessions to foreign companies.

When Mr Brown let it be known that he would veto Mr Lafontaine's plans, the Ger-



The Sun's inflammatory front page

rhetoric, causing a feeding frenzy in the British press. The row even affected British opinion towards the Euro, leading British ministers to make urgent appeals to Mr Lafontaine to desist from using the word "harmonisation".

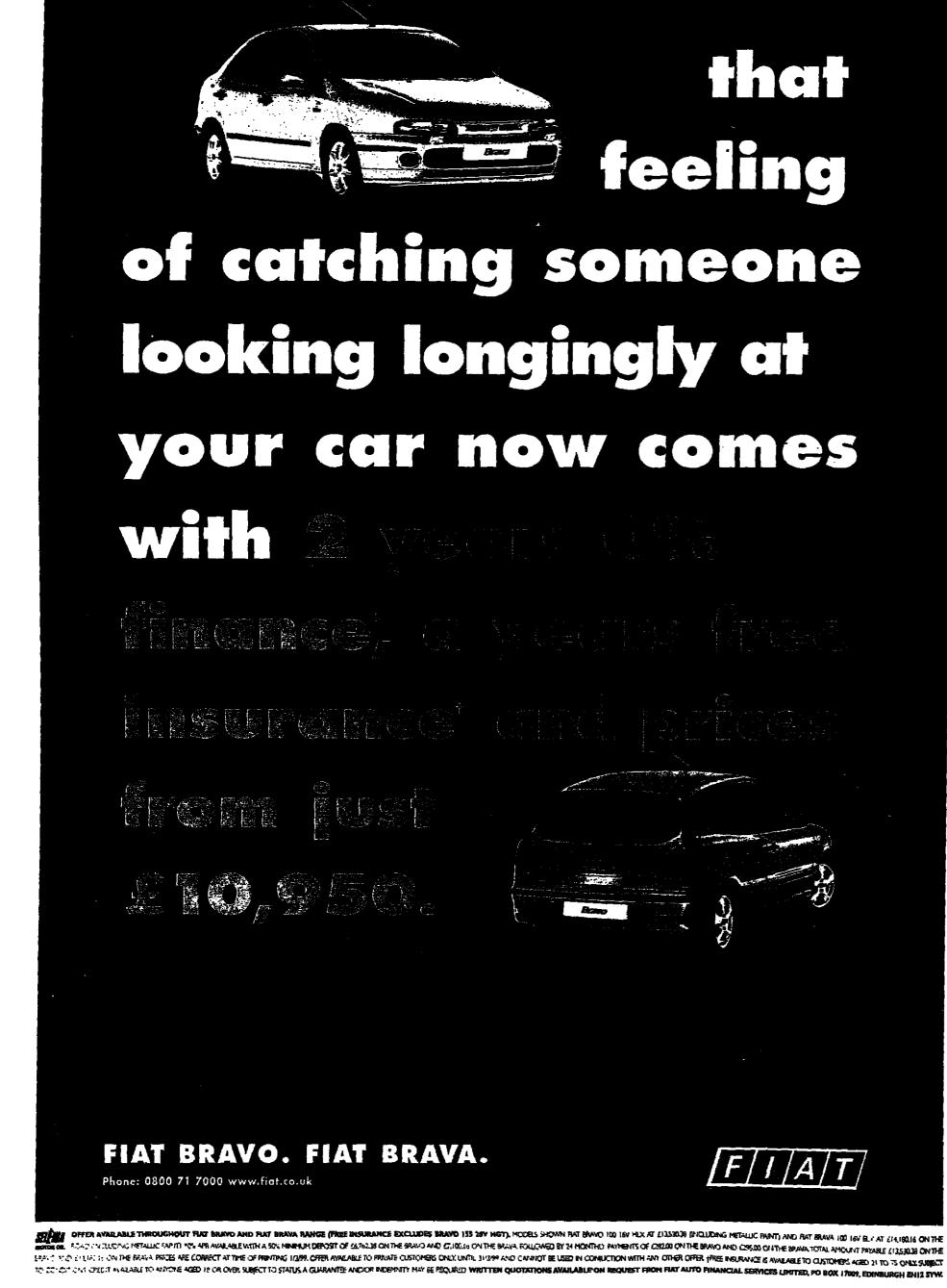
"I can't talk about this, Mr Lafontaine quipped, "I'll have

This was only part of an economic agenda which presented difficulties for the UK The changes of government in Germany and Italy last year, both with sharp moves to the ieft, produced a new push for a more Keynesian approach to jobs and growth

In any debate over economic policy. Mr Lafontaine would be on the side of those pushing for growth and job creation, rather than stressing the need for structural reform of Europe's economies. But his arguments were a challenge to Brussels too, because he was regularly at odds with the rules which the euro is meant to operate under. the Growth and Stability Pact.

In a typically robust mood Mr Lafontaine recently took his argument to the European Parliament, making the case that successful economies are not always based on low borrowing or balanced budgets, as the EU decreed. Look at Ronald Reagan's economic policy, he told MEPs: "he ran up enormous debts - of the type that would have made the guardians of the Growth and Stability Pact tear out their hair - combined with massive tax cuts.

"I don't think the European Commission would have let man minister turned up the Reagan loose on the streets."



# Blair condemns 'historic' CAP reform as farmers celebrate

BY KATHERINE BUTLER in Brussels AND COLIN BROWN AND PAUL WAUGH

THE AGRICULTURE Minister Nick Brown faced humiliation last night after the deal he reached on the Common Agriculture Policy was rejected by Tony Blair as "not good enough".

The overhaul of the 37-yearold system for supporting Europe's farmers will lead to cuts in subsidies on beef, dairy and cereals production, with dairy quotas phased out by 2006. Mr Brown, who has to make

a statement on the deal to MPs today in the Commons, said after the all-night negotiations that it would save the average British family up to £70 a year. "The deal struck is good for taxpavers, farmers, consumers and the countryside," he said. But even before the Agri-

culture Minister had returned to Britain, the deal was criticised by Mr Blair who told the Cabinet it did not go far enough, and Britain would continue pressing for deeper cuts in the cost of the CAP.

Farmers across Europe celebrated that they had at least avoided more draconian cuts. The historic agreement to reform the European Union's 37year-old farm policy had begun to unravel last night with the realisation in London and other capitals that the deal would save no money.

Tony Blair appeared to pull the rug from under the deal by suggesting the cuts did not go far enough. The reforms still have to be agreed by heads of government at their Berlin lished in the early 1960s". summit on 25 March in the context of an overall deal on rebut it is not satisfactory in our view," Mr Blair said.

grew during the day. The Agriaccused the German EU presidency of assuming the negoti- layed by three years. ations were over when they were not. The EU Agriculture long-term cut in the burden of

WHERE THE FARMERS ARE, WHAT THEY GET NOW AND HOW THAT WILL CHANGE WHAT THE CHANGES MEAN

	AREA	NUMBER		CAP	CAP	
	FARMED '000s of hectores.	OF FARMS	EMPLOYED	PAYMENTS average per familie.	PAYMEN IS % of GNP	
UK .	16,149	235,000	511,000	10,312	0.39	
BELGIUM .	1.371	71,000	104,000	11,529	0.59	
DENMARK	2,727	69,000	102,000	12,587	0.99	
GERMANY	17,335	567.000	1,046,000	6,703	0.31	
GREECE	3,465	774,000	784,000	2,328	2.87	
SPAIN	30,281	1,278,000	1,065,000	2,362	1.03	
FRANCE	30,215	735,000	1,072,000	7,918	0.74	
IRELAND	4,325	153,000	146,000	7,736	3.86	
ITALY	14,685	2,482,000	1,332.000	1,330	0.51	
LUXEMBOURG	126	3,000	4,000	4,379	0.13	强塞
: NETHERLANDS	1,969	113,000	247,000	10.161	0.56	
AUSTRIA	3,432	222,000	269,000	1,884	0.39	
PORTUGAL	3,927	451,000	541,000	957	0.79	
FINLAND	2,192	101,000	161,000	1,552	0.42	
SWEDEN	3,060	89,000	130,000	3,658	0.26	

BEEP: The minimum price that the EU guarantees to farmers will be cut 👨 by 20% in three stages. Prices in the shops may fall slightly. CEREALS: The minimum guaran-

teed price to farmers will be cut by There may be some impact on the cost of the average shopping basker. bread, pasta, biscults and breakfast cereals as well as poultry and pork could be cheaper, but it depends on what part of their savings, if any, supermarkets pass on to customers. One ecstatic group of people will be feared a celling on compensation payours. There will be no celling. MILK: The guaranteed price will be cut by 15% in three equal steps

starting from 2003/2004. Quotas would be increased by 1.5 percent in three equal steps from the 2003/2004, allowing more production. There could be some fall in the price of milk, cheese, and other dairy products.

WHAT THE FARMERS COST THE TAXPAYER: Spending will Increase n the short-term as farmers are compensated. The farm budget will total about 313 bn euros over 2000-2006. That represents 44,7 on euros a year, compared to the current level of 40.4 billion euros. Farm spending accounts for half the EU's total budger.

WHAT SHOPPERS WILL SAVE: The Government says a family of four will be £70 a year better off,

next few years.

sion into Eastern Europe in the

deal would increase spending

by 2006, not stabilise it, as the

sels when Mr Blair told minis-

ters that the deal was

Germans had intended.

Downing Street said the

Mr Brown was still in Brus-

By STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels AND PAUL WAUGH in London

eyes on British

rebate

BRITAIN'S European Union budget rebate came under renewed pressure yesterday, with Germany insisting that the subject must be debated at the forthcoming summit in Berlin.

The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, will have additional difficulties in defending the continuation of Britain's rebate. after EU agricultural ministers yesterday agreed on a deal which failed to make expected budgetary savings. The deal on farm spending will cost around £5bn more than the amount specified at last month's special summit near Bonn.

A paper from the German EU presidency identifies the £2bn annual rebate as a central item of discussion at the meeting in two weeks' time. The naner argues that circumstances have changed since it was negotiated in 1984 by the then prime minister. Margaret Thatcher, at Fontainebleau.

The German document says the "key for financing the UK budget abatement", could be "adjusted", adding that new mechanisms should be put in place to take account of potential benefits to Britain of a decline in agriculture spending. It states that the definition of expenditure covered by the rebate should be "amended" to exempt the costs of the EU's enlargement to the east.

In the Government's strongest statement on the issue to date. Mr Blair's official spokesman said there was no question of the rebate being conceded: "The abatement is non-negotiable, as all our partners know. We have made it clear that the abatement is justified, whatever the effects of enlargement."

said although it was "less ambitious" than the Commission's initial proposals, it represented "the most radical reform since the CAP was first estab-

The key plank of any deal was intended to be a cut in the forming the EU's finances. artificially guaranteed price of "This does represent progress commodities by up to 30 per cent. But the ministers backed away from such a steep set of French displeasure also cuts, opting for a maximum price cut of 20 per cent for beef culture Minister, Jean Glavany, and cereals and a 15-per-cent cut in milk, which will be de-

The hoped-for effect is a

mountains. By bringing EU policy into line with the demands of Europe's trading partners and the World Trade Organisation it will also allow big producers to compete in world markets, where prices are much lower.

But the big flaw is that it will cost taxpayers an extra £1bn a hundreds of thousands of year over the next seven years on top of the £30bn a year the CAP already costs - because farmers will have to be compensated for the price cuts with generous direct-income support payments. And because the cuts and payment limits have been diluted in the Commissioner, Franz Fischler, supporting agriculture, and final compromise it is not sure Brown, welcomed this devel-

mayed at the failure to include any national co-financing of the CAP, as Germany had sought, or any limits on annual cash amounts individual millionaire grain barons, paid pounds a year simply for owning vast tracts of cereals land, appeared to have escaped the threat of a £100,000 ceiling on the amount they cash in EU subsidy cheques each year, after which subsidies would begin to tail off.

reform can be fully achieved.

Critics were particularly dis-

The Farm Minister, Nick co-broker of the compromise, fewer milk lakes and beef the trade benefits of paying for opment. "I am pleased the ceil-

ing is gone. We wanted to see changes in the method of paying farmers which did not disproportionately penalise the United Kingdom." But by last night Brussels officials said of the dairy sector, although Mr the means for discriminating Brown admitted disappointfarmers can pocket. Britain's between income support for deserving small farmers and the rich élite who cream off most of the subsidies could still be added to the final pack-

age. In contrast to the noises of the need to find big budget dissent from London, in Brus- savings to finance EU expansels Britain was claiming victory for forcing Germany and France to accept some reform ment at a three-year delay in implementing the agreed 15per-cent cut in the guaranteed milk price.

The trigger for reform was

unacceptable.

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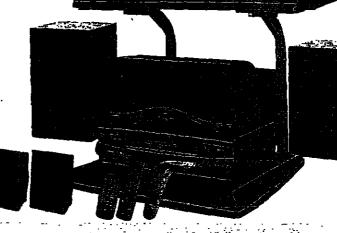
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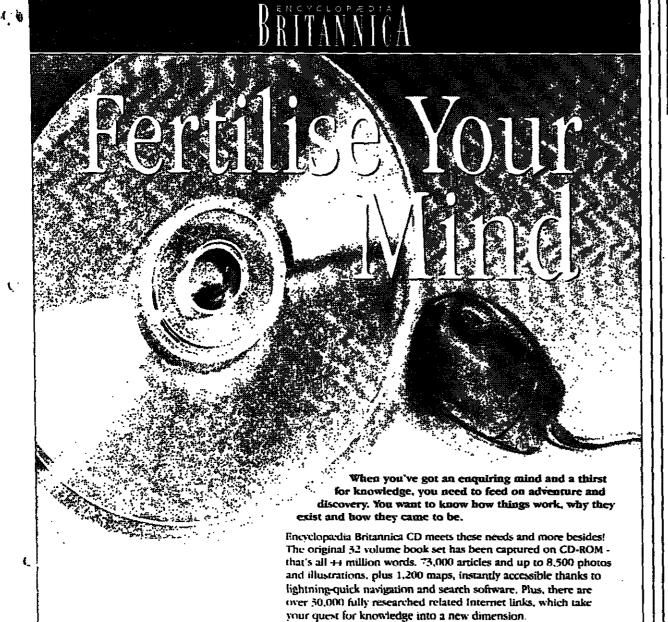


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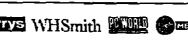


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# Congo orders diplomats out

THE SIX diplomats and officials BY KIM SENGUPTA from Britain and the US arrested in Congo over allegations of spying were due to fly out yesterday after President Laurent Kabila's government ordered their expulsion.

The six were expected to go to Zambia after the Congolese Interior Minister, Gaetan kakudji, demanded that they leave on the first scheduled flight out of the capital Kinshasa because they "had infiltrated a military base".

In the increasingly acrimosaid it was "considering its position" on whether any Congolese diplomats face expulsion in retaliation. London has denied the men were engaged in espionage. It insists their role was purely to organise continof British nationals in Congo which is rapidly sinking into an

The expulsion of the Britons

and the American also means a plans for the evacuation of the 150 or so British nationals in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The British ambassador, Douglas Scrafton, is expected to hold consultations with other foreign embassies in Kinshasa

Mr Kadulji claimed that the men "violated the Vienna Convention by introducing themselves illegally into the grounds of the Ndolo military base". nious row, the Foreign Office The Congolese have accused one of the Foreign Office men, Gregor Lusty, of being the "guide" of the enterprise. But as an accredited diplomat he was released; the others were kept under house arrest in Kinshasa.

The Foreign Office minister Tony Lloyd reiterated yesterday: "These people are not spies. Their purpose was wholinnocent." He has already telephoned President Kabila to

complain about the "totally unjustifiable actiou".

Mr Lustywas Third Secretary major disruption in contingency at the British embassy in Kinshasa. The American was on secondment from the US State Department Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Also arrested were two Ministry of Defence officials, a consular official and a bodyguard to Mr Scrafton. It has been claimed that the MoD officials were part of the Rapid Reaction Force, who would be responsible for evacuation but who could also be

used for intelligence gathering. As President Kabila's regime faces increasing pressure from rebel forces, there is increasing paranoia about alleged Western conspiracies, with accusations of foreign mercenaries helping the rebels. Anti-Western feelings are growing. Last week's massacre of eight Western tourists in Uganda was carried out by a Hutu militia loosely allied to President Kabila.



Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary (left), and his French counterpart Hubert Vedrine being welcomed to the presidential palace in Abidjan by the Ivory Coast Ivorian President, Henri Konan Bédié, during the first Anglo-French visit of its kind to West Africa

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## New entente cordiale as Africa is unscrambled

SETTING A century and a half BY RUPERT CORNWELL of colonial rivalry behind them, in Abidjan Britain and France yesterday launched what they billed as an historic new partnership with Africa, aimed at bringing prosperity and peace to the

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and his French opposite number Hubert Vedrine met the presidents of Ivory Coast and Ghana, flagship countries of former French and British Africa respectively, before opening a conference of the British and French ambassadors to a dozen African coun-

London and Paris no longer sought to divide up the continent, Mr Vedrine told the meeting, jointly staged in the Ghanaian and Ivory Coast capitals, Accra and Abidjan. "There are no more exclusive spheres of influence, nor any forbidden

Mr Cook said that the two countries acting together could help Africa to boost trade, reduce its debt, and find solutions to its conflicts.

The realities of the modern tried - with greater success world are rendering obsolete to show countries such as history's barriers and narrow calculations of national advantage. Both countries have a younger generation of diplomats with no memory of colonial or early post-colonial

In Accra, Ghana's military college may exude the spit and polish of Sandhurst, but French companies thrive in the former British colony, and a favourite expatriate hangout in the Ghanaian capital is neither a French brasserie nor an Engfish bar – but an Irish pub. If there is to be a European

foreign policy, as sketched out last December when British and French leaders first agreed to end their rivalry in Africa, the notion would lose all credibility should the two countries continue to do battle with each other through their former And then there are the feelings of the Africans themselves. Why in a world of dissolving

frontiers, should Ivory Coast be forced to use Paris as its gate-

Ghanaian President, said yesterday: "We detest the differentiation between Anglophone and Francophone Africa." But differentiation will not vanish easily. Once independence became inevitable after the Second World War, Britain's approach was to prepare its African colonies for setf-government and membership of

the Commonwealth. France, however, aimed for assimilation: the absorption of educated Africans into French tives in the Congo, Sierra society. "We left and they didn't," a senior British diplomat said. "We disengaged in the 1960s, but they've waited until the 1980s and 1990s."

France has 6,000 soldiers Africa, while 14 of its former colonies use the CFA franc, and thus to the curo. These are all are weapons in the war to die hard

preserve French as a world language against the onslaught of

But old French certainties have been shaken by the catastrophes in Rwanda and the former Zaire (although both Francophone, they are former Belgian, not French, colonies).

In both cases France was on the wrong side, seen as a protector of the reviled President Mobutu in Zaire, and accused of abetting the Hutu genocide against the Tutsis in Rwanda in 1994. The latter was said to have been a devastating experience Mr Vedrine, who was President Mitterrand's top aide.

But if French policies are changing, they will none the less be operated by many of the people who ran the old policies, and they will be subject to the same jealousies.

France tried to use Britain's recent estrangement from Nigeria to boost its influence in what is potentially the dominant West African power. It also



An 1885 cartoon of Bismarck carving up Africa

Ghana and Kenya what French cultural delights they had missed on account of their links with Britain. The Maison Française in Nairobi - a temple to Parisian chic if ever there were one - is just the latest and most visible evidence of

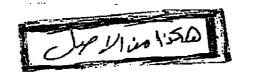
this enterprise. For its part, Britain has been unabashedly cock-a-hoop way to the world? Or, as Flight about pinching a £130m dock Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the renovation contract in Abidjan from under the noses of French companies long accustomed to having everything their own way in Ivory Coast. "Political allies maybe," sniffed a foreign diplomat in Nigeria, "but they'll be commercial competitors to the end."

Quick results, in short, are unlikely. The two-day gathering of ambassadors is to settle the procedural nuts and bolts of cooperation - it is not about aid or joint peacekeeping initia-Leone and other crisis spots in

Africa. Indeed, to make it so might merely raise the spectre of neo-colonialism. As the Accra newspaper The Graphic asked permanently stationed in this week "Is this a strategy to re-colonise Ghana and Ivory Coast and strengthen colonial pegged to the French franc structures?" In modern Africa, old fears as well as old rivalries,

pekin ighte securi

lectra Arct



# Peking tightens security in Tibet

TWO MONKS have been de- BY TERESA POOLE tained in Lhasa for daring to shout pro-independence slogans to mark the 40th anniversary of the Tibetan uprising which forced the Dalai Lama into exile.

A strict security regime remained in force throughout China's Himalayan region yesterday, as Peking dismissed pleas from the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader that dialogue was the only way to resolve the

Reports from Lhasa said that on Wednesday, the day of the anniversary, two monks in their late twenties shouted slogans in the Barkhor, the spiritual centre of the Tibetan capital, near the Jokhang temple. Police pounced, arresting one man immediately, and detaining the other as he attempted to escape. Riot police, vehicles and dogs appeared half an hour later.

The London-based Free Tibet Campaign spoke to witnesses who said the Jokhang had been closed for "cleaning" and watchers had been posted in the area. Monks in the monasteries of Ganden, Drepung and Sera were prevented from leaving, the group said.

Peking yesterday renewed its verbal assault on the Dalai Lama, with China's Foreign Ministry spokesman saying he continued "stubbornly" to push for independence and was "creating obstacles" to contact with Peking. "He has never stopped activities aimed at splitting the motherland," Zhu Bangzao said.

The harsh propaganda contrasted sharply with a dignified

in Peking

and heartfelt speech by the Dalai Lama to mark the anniversary of the uprising against Chinese rule. He confirmed that informal channels of contact with Peking "through private persons and semi-officials" had suddenly closed last year.

"Late last autum, without any obvious reason, there was a noticeable hardening of the Chi-nese position on dialogue and their attitude towards me. This abrupt change was accompanied by a new round of intensified repression in Tibet," he said.

Before China turned its back on dialogue, Peking seemed ready to moderate its position on Tibet. President Jiang Zemin spoke openly of dialogue during President Bill Clinton's state visit last June. The Dalai Lama's aides even mooted the idea of a spiritual pilgrimage to China.

Yesterday, the Dalai Lama again stated that he was seeking only "genuine autonomy". "I do not seek independence for Tibet ... A just and fair solution to the issue of Tibet will enable me to give full assurance that I will use my moral authority to persuade the Tibetans not to seek separation," he said. But he added that "the Chinese leadership is sometimes hindered by its own suspicions".

It is widely believed that China now has no real interest in opening a dialogue with the Dalai Lama, and its current policy is to contain Tibet until the exiled 67-year-old leader dies.



An Axi tribe elder carrying her grandchild in You Zha Di village, in the Yunnan province of China, at the Lunar New Year festivities. The Axi are part of the Yi, one of the minority groups who make up 6 per cent of China's 1.2 billion population

## Pandas get VIP suites in Hong Kong

TWO GIANT pandas, An An and BY STEPHEN VINES Jia Jia, touched down in Hong in Hong Kong Kong from mainland China yes terday to be be whisked off to unprecedented luxury at what is described as the Ocean Park Panda Hotel. The complex is a specially built, £6.5m panda "habitat" with separate "his" and "her" bedrooms, hish vegetation, electronic temperature control and - believe it or not - a sliding roof for when the weather becomes temperate.

In typical Chinese style, the gift of the pandas to Hong Kong has strong political overtones. They were offered by Peking as part of the celebratory package to mark the end of British colonial rule.

This endangered species, which survives only in China,

has long been used by the government in Peking to cement political relations and to reward so-called "old friends".

In the past, panda gifts have had an uncanny knack of coinciding with the political demise of their recipients. Edward Heath got his just before losing a general election. Richard Nixon's pandas arrived alongside the Watergate scandal.

Hong Kong's head of government, Tung Chee-hwa, will be hoping that the panda curse does not blight his administration - although An An and Jia Jia are arriving just as Hong Kong lumbers into one of its deepest recessions.

The pandas are expected to do their bit for species survival while in Hong Kong by mating. Whether the five-star accommodation will induce these notoriously difficult creatures to breed remains to be seen.

Garry Marvin, the author of a book called Zoo Culture, described the lavish panda home as "the architecture of guilt". He told a Hong Kong newspa per that although a lot of money had been spent, the environment is not really suitable for wild animals and has been designed to reflect human attitudes towards animals, rather than anything else.

An An and Jia Jia will be kept under wraps on arrival and will only go on public display in



## China to let public watch trials

By TERESA POOLE

CHINA'S COURTS are to make more trials open to the public to give mainland justice greater transparency. The Supreme Court said trials should be publicised in advance and verdicts issued in closed courtrooms would be subject to retrial.

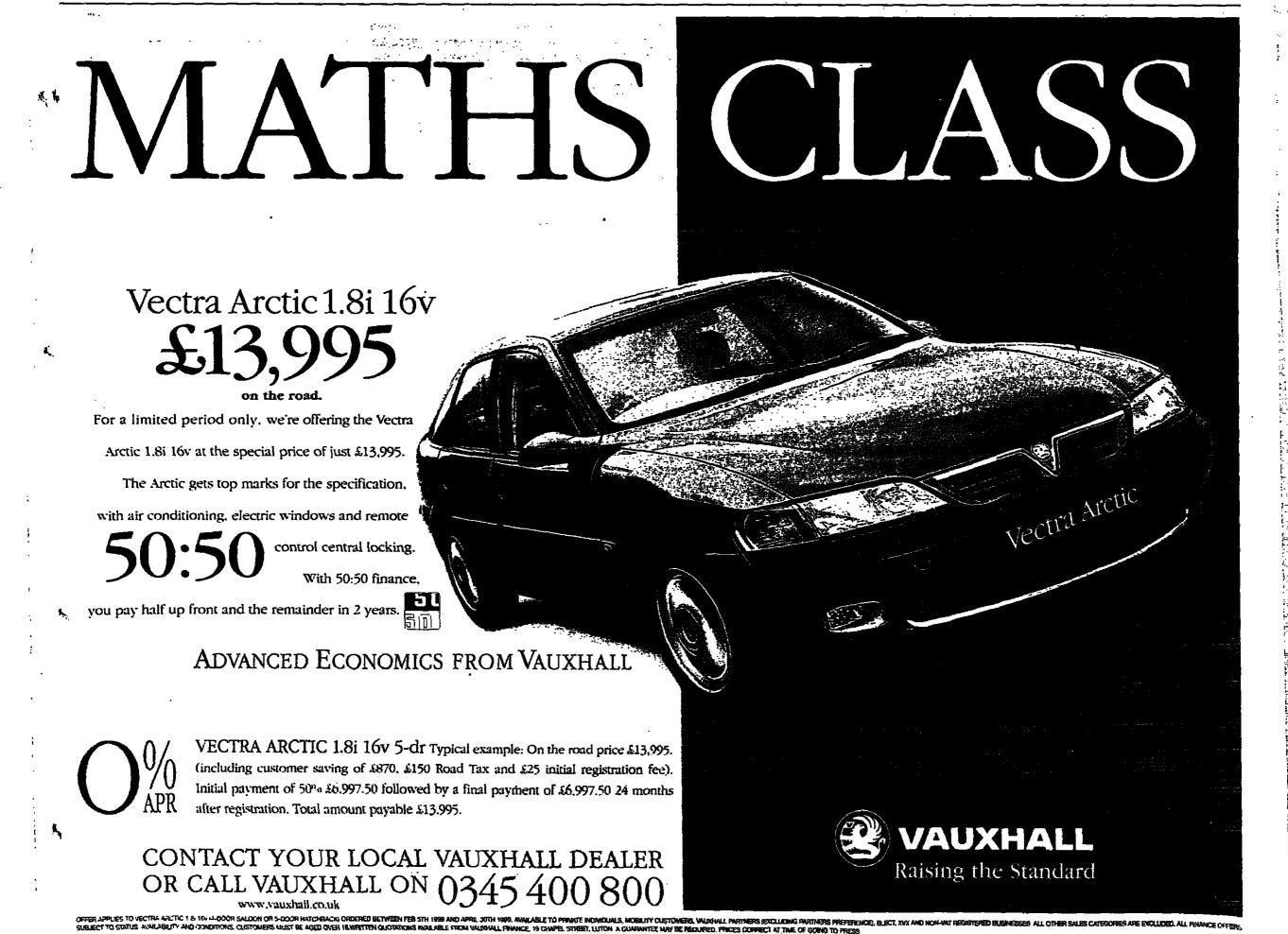
Human rights organisations will be closely monitoring how this order is implemented. Trials deemed to involve issues of "national security" will not be open, and it is unlikely that hearings involving dissidents will allow uninvited guests. Under existing arrangements, China often claims a trial has been held "in public", when the reality is that the room is peopled only by carefully selected government officials.

A carefully controlled opening of the courts started last year in Peking, when the city's Number One Intermediate People's Court opened to the public and also broadcast some non-sensitive cases live on television. Other courts around the

country followed suit.
Under the new order, publicised in yesterday's Chinese newspapers, the lowest of the three tiers of courts must always be open unless the case involves state secrets, juvenile delinquency, personal privacy,

divorce or commercial secrets. The public's right to know remains curtailed, however. Even in open trials, Chinese journalists will need permission to attend. The Independent was permitted to watch a trial last year, but access by foreigners is still hard to arrange.

In the criminal trials of dissidents last year, the new right to a lawyer and adequate notice of the trial date proved worthless. One dissident's lawyer was detained, and another dissident was given just three AP days' notice of his appearance.



## Hidden miracle of Louis XV's millennium clock

AT MIDNIGHT French time on 31 December of this year, while most of Paris is going crazy on the Champs-Elysees, a clockwork miracle will occur unseen

at the Château de Versailles. A clock built 253 years ago, to show days, months and years as well as hours and minutes. will tick-tock its way without fuss or fanfare into the new millennium. The first digit on the year-counter, which has been stuck on "one" for the past two-and-a-half centuries. will move smoothly and silently on to "two". The other digits will turn to zero and the clock sometimes called the 10,000year clock - will have entered

What price new technology? Other year-counting clocks globe. None is believed to be as old as the Horloge Passemont in the Château de Versailles and none, certainly, has mutely witnessed as many of the decisive events of the past quarter millennium.

**EUROPEAN TIMES** 

VERSAILLES

"clock room" at Versailles, a few yards from the rooms occupied by Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette at the time of the Revolution; and only one room away from the Hall of Mirrors where the peace treaty to end the First World War was signed in 1919.

The clock's present custodithe château, Daniel Mornas, 61, who visits his charge once a month to wind it. When he a new millennium, without reads of all the anxiety about the "bugs". expensive readjust-ments and precisely on time. says he smiles but "it also makes me angry".

"It is absurd, inadmissible exist in various parts of the that all these expensive, clever, modern machines should have been made without bearing the millennium in mind. Was it just stupidity or for commercial reasons?"

Mr Mornas, owner of a clock workshop in the town, is a The clock was bought by precise, passionate, sombre-Louis XV in 1749, three years seeming man, given to bursts tall on a plinth of marble, stood

after it was constructed. It of infectious enthusiasm for his has stood ever since in the trade. His life is ruled by the clock: or by more than 200 clocks, most of which need to be rewound every fortnight. "Whatever else happens in my life," he said. "I know that I can never go on holiday for more than two weeks."

The Passemont clock, named after its creator, a celebrated French clock-maker. an is the chief clock-keeper of loses one minute a month. "I could try to adjust the mechanism but, in my view, for a clock that old, to lose a minute a month is not so bad. So I just move it forward a minute each month and otherwise leave it alone," Mr Mornas said.

We visited the clock outside normal visiting times. The château, the largest and many believe the most beautiful mansion in the world, was eerily and movingly empty. The light was just fading on the huge, geo-metrical gardens beyond the Hall of Mirrors. The clock, in an ornate brass case, about six feet

awaiting its moment of tech-nological triumph in a room but not much more than that." which most visitors do not see.

The mechanism, including more than a thousand interconnecting brass and steel wheels. was constructed to built a clock capable of surtake account of the differing numbers of days in each month and adjusted, in advance, for tality of the age," Mr Mornas leap years. There is one large said. You see it also in the brass wheel in the clock, which buildings of the time, like this takes exactly four years to

perform a full revolution. When it does so, it trips another wheel which provides February with its 29th day. In all other years, the clock moves automatically from the 28th of the month to the 1st of March. The clock also records, ac-

curately, the phases of the moon, and beautifully but less accurately, according to the slightly wayward calculations of Copernicus, the movements of the planets. The 10,000-year clock is so-called because it is capable of counting the years up to 9999. Mr Mornas does not like that name: he doubts that the clock will see one more millennium, never mind another 8,000 years. "Given normal wear," he said, "I expect that

Seven centuries is not bad.

Why should Monsieur Passemont - his first name has not come down to posterity - have viving for 750 years?

"Because that was the menchâteau. Everything was made to last indefinitely. In our own lime, when we build a school or a hospital, we expect to tear it down after 20 years and start again. Everything is for the moment ... In those days, there was a sense of permanence, a sense of eternity. It's something that

we've lost.' No special event is planned to mark the moment when the clock ticks into 2000. Unless one of the château caretakers bothers to witness the moment, a technological feat, pre-programmed two-and-ahalf centuries ago but seemingly beyond our greatest modern brains, will occur in the dark - and unseen

JOHN LICHFIELD



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640 with

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THE WEST'S Balkan strategy was in disarray yesterday after Serbia rejected a planned peace deal for the war-stricken province of Kosovo.

After eight hours of talks with the United States envoy Richard Holbrooke in Belgrade, President Slobodan Milosevic said Yugoslavia would never tolerate a foreign military force entering Kosovo to supervise a peace settlement. "Attempts to condition a po-

Belgrade's rejection of for-

eign troops, a vital element of

the package, casts doubt on

whether the second round of

talks on Kosovo will even take

place as planned on 15 March

at Rambouillet, in France.

Some Kosovo Albanian leaders

suggested yesterday that they

The shambles exposes Nato

While Nato officials in Brus-

sels were yesterday talking up

the threat to use force to engi-

neer a peace deal in Kosovo, the

very fact that such threats have

been around for six months has

of crisis, with the Serbs being

obdurate at the table and brutal

on the ground, to wind allied

public opinion up into bombing

mode," one Nato diplomat

Mr Holbrooke alluded to the

new note of realism before he

"It would take several days

diminished their value.

may boycott the whole event.

to the risk of public humiliation

if the alliance's repeated threats to use force against Serbia are

revealed to be hollow.

litical agreement on our country's acceptance of foreign troops are unacceptable," read the statement from Mr Milosevic's office after Mr Holbrooke left the Serbian capital

in defeat.

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Sun 10am-4pm Offer ends 18th March BY MARCUS TANNER

left Serbia for New York. There was no point "rattling rockets and making threatening gestures", he said.

Nor can the West draw much comfort from yesterday's visit to Belgrade by Russia's Foreign Minister, Igor Ivanov. Although publicly committed

to supporting a peace deal for Kosovo, Russia's strong ties to its old Serbian ally mean it is unlikely to bring much - or indeed any - pressure to bear on Mr Milosevic. Grim confirmation of Koso-

vo's deteriorating situation ups by the Yugoslav army near the western city of Prizren and a "very grim situation" on Kosovo's border with Macedonia Red Cross officials in the Kosovo capital of Pristina de-

scribed as "pitiful" the plight of Albanian villagers driven from their homes by Serb forces. At least four villages were reported to be in flames after being shelled by the Yugoslav army. While much of the blame

for Kosovo's dismal prospects will be laid at Serbia's door. some of the recrimination will also be aimed at the Koşovar leadership.

Instead of wrongfooting Belgrade by agreeing to the peace plan, leaders of the Kosovo Liberation Army have infuriated their Western sympathisers with endless procrastination.

Even a strong supporter such as the former US senator Bob Dole said, in a radio interview on Wednesday, that he was "frankly disgusted with the attitude of the Kosovars".

#### IN BRIEF

Holocaust victims to get £36m NORWAY'S PARLIAMENT has approved compensation

worth \$57.7m (£36m) for the nation's Jewish Holocaust victims. Parliament adopted a package that will compensate Jewish families for part of the property that was plundered by the Nazis and that will fund projects for the Jewish community

**Duvalier misses court appearance** 

JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER, the former Haitian dictator, failed to appear at a court hearing yesterday on the status of his residency in France, sending a letter saying he did not want to feed growing controversy about himself. A Haitian-born photographer has started a committee in Paris to bring Duvalier to trial for crimes against humanity.

£15m to feed displaced Ethiopians

THE UNITED NATIONS World Food Programme approved a \$24.3m (£15m) operation to feed up to 272,000 Ethiopians displaced by recent fighting along the border with Eritrea. The food relief agency estimates that the conflict has forced nearly 350,000 Ethiopians to flee their homes.

Fossil offers clue on evolution

SOUTH AFRICAN researchers unveiled a 260 million-year-old fossil they say bolsters the theory that South Africa was the place where scaly, cold-blooded reptiles evolved into the ancestors of furry, warm-blooded mammals. The fossil came. from a pre-dinosaur species of sheep-sized animal.



E INDEPENDENT

He did, however, render useful cervice. As change the party he kept leftister at bay. With him gone den the party forever suspin Mr Schröder's New Com Arel Mr Schroder has noted

The Chancellor looked Davi last night as he proover the shortest press ference of his life. Today france warms as proposed to the warms of the state of the Laferdantic & Successors in :- unlikely that any one per can fel those two vacants the breeded the party and

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for a perfectly smooth drive, look no further than the new mondeo zetec, as well as absorbing almost all vibrations, the suspension incorporates a passive rear wheel steering effect, designed to increase driver's confidence with reassuring stability, you'll also be pleased to hear that we've lowered engine noise levels by 50%, of course, superb performance is matched by superb control, and now the mondeo zetec comes with optional new generation 4 channel mecatronic abs brakes with advanced dual mode traction control." standard equipment includes:

- freechoice of 1.8 or 2.0 16v zetec engine
- 5 spoke alloy wheels metallic paint
- · front foglamps · mesh sports grille
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- quickclear' heated front windscreen
- cd/radio powerheated door mirrors
- · remote control double locking · rear centre arm rest • rear head restraints safeguard immobiliser
   perimeter alarm

the new mondeo zetec £15,380 on the road.



# BUSINESS

## **BRIEFING**

BCCI man's appeal turned down

THE COURT of Appeal yesterday rejected the appeal by a key figure in the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) scandal against his 14 year prison sentence. Abbas Gokal was sentenced and ordered to pay costs of £4.3m last April for his role as chairman of Gulf Group, a shipping company which was the the biggest single borrower from BCCI. He had conspired with senior BCCI officials to swindle the bank of \$1.2bn, and was found guilty of false accounting and conspiracy to defraud. In giving his ruling, Lord Justice Rose said Gokal was at the heart of a highly sophisticated fraud, the largest experienced in the UK and with international consequences of great gravity.

#### **United Biscuits profits rise**



UNITED BISCUITS, the McVitie's and Hula Hoops snacks group, has started to sbrug off a prolonged period of under-performance with a i per cent rise in underlying full-year profits to £110m. The company, which this week lost its chief executive Eric Nicoli (pictured) to EMI, saw UK profits at McVitie's edge up by 2 per cent with strong performances from its Go

Ahead. Hob Nob and Penguin brands. Separately it emerged yesterday that Keebler, the US snacks business UB sold two years go after a disastrons performance, is now enjoying soaring profits and market share.

#### **BoS launches life insurer**

BANK OF SCOTLAND yesterday entered the long-term savings business in earnest by launching its own life insurance company. The bank is linking up with Edinburgh Fund Managers and Legal & General to handle investment management, and five other companies. Gavin Masterton, managing director, said the new company, to be called Bank of Scotland Investors Club, would be able to "leapfrog" other companies by developing new-generation

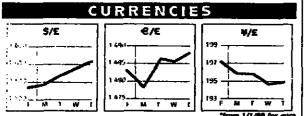
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6100	9600	14600
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INDICES									
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FTSE 100	6335.70	94.20	1.51	6319.80	4599.20	2.57			
FTSE 250	5493.30	84.30	1.56	5970.90	4247.60	3.11			
FTSE 350	3008.90	45.00	1.52	2978.70	2210.40	2.65			
FTSE All Share	2908.34	42.53	1.48	2886.52	2143.53	2.69			
FTSE SmallCap	2353.10	19,10	0.82	2793.80	1834.40	3.47			
FTSE Fledging	1275.70	5.00	0.39	1517.10	1046,20	4.29			
FTSE AIM	844.30	2.60	0.31	1146.90	761.30	1.10			
FTSE Eurotop 100	2914.03	60.27	2.11	3079.27	2018.15	2.05			
FTSE Eurotop 300	1259.60	21.91	1.77	1 332.07	880.63	1.95			
Dow Jones	9877.19	107.12	1,10	9798.93	7400.30	1.60			
Nikkei	15502.14	22.14	0.14	17128.97	12787.90	0.92			
Hang Seng	10662.81	-86.20	-0.80	11926.16	6544.79	3.22			
Dax	4754.41	33.00	0.70	6217.83	3833.71	1.83			
S&P 500	1298.08	11.32	0.88	1293.74	923.32	1.24			
Nasdaq	2428.81	22.15	0.92	2533.44	1357.09	0.28			
Toronto 300	6599,20	26.28	0.40	7837.70	5320.90	1.60			
Brazil Bovespa	10077.88	286.07	2.93	12339.14	4575.69	6.18			
Belgium Bel 20	3302.18	24.64	0.75	3713.21	2696.26	2.13			
Amsterdam Exch	527.58	6.92	1.33	600.65	366.58	1.95			
France CAC 40	4184.38	22.07	0.53	4404.94	2881.21	1.87			
Milan MIB30	37111.00	241.00	0.65	39170.00	24175.00	1,10			
Madrid Roex 35	10191.60	<u> 251.50</u>	2,53	10989.80	6869.90	1,71			
Irish Overall	5425.48	57.09	1.06	5581.70	3732.57	1.50			

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6.31 Base Rates 5.50 7.25 SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

#### mww.bloomberg.com/uk TOURIST RATES

Austrolia (\$)	2.4688	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.45
Austria (schillings)	19.81	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1749
Beigium (francs)	58.25	New Zealand (\$)	_2.9077
Canada (\$)	2.4116	Norway (kroner)	12.35
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8331	Portugal (escudos)	287.65
Denmark (kroner)	10.79	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.9237
Finland (markka)	8.5993	Singapore (5)	2.6715
France (francs)	9.4651	South Africa (rands)	9.5967
Germany (marks)	2.8304	Spain (peseras)	239.34
Greece (drachma)	463.62	Sweden (kronor)	12.87
Hong Kong (S)	12.21	Switzerland (francs)	2.3122
Ireland (punts)	1.1342	Thailand (bahts)	55.43
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5.8651

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Source: Thomas Cook

Malaysia (ringgits)

# Electra aims to thwart 3i with share buyback

ELECTRA INVESTMENT Trust BY ANDREW VERITY yesterday mounted its defence against a £1.2bn unsolicited bid by 3i group when it offered to buy back shares at a 40 per cent premium to their pre-bid price.

Electra, which received the bid of 705p a share in January, is proposing a tender offer at 786p for 40 per cent of its share capital, costing the trust £544m. The geared-up trust will then be wound up within five years.

Michael Stoddart, the Electra chairman who founded the trust 26 years ago, said further buybacks were planned: "We would hope the majority if not all, the money would be back in shareholders' hands within the five years," he said.

Electra will also spend £30m buying out Robert Fleming, the investment bank, from its 50 per

the trust's investment managers. The future of Robert the limit The trust's biggest un-Fleming's stake - sold less than five years ago - was one of the at £48m at the end of September.

The defence was welcomed by the market, which marked the shares up 6 per cent to 729.5p. in spite of the absence of muchrumoured third-party bidders. But Electra also came under

attack from a number of analysts

quoted stock, PHS, was valued main sticking points of the 3i bld. According to Electra's valuation, the stock was worth £80m by the end of February. Another holding in a company called ICIL, more than trebled in value.

Mr Stoddart said the re-valuation of the trust's assets was

uation meant the stocks would have to grow earnings by 30 per

cent a year. Analysts also said sharetire holding would get less than the 3i bid - because the rump inan incentive scheme, giving se-

cent stake in Electra Fleming, who said it had stretched the cent rise in the FT-All Share nior executives of Electra Flemvalue of its unquoted assets to index. But analysts said the valing up to £30m if they succeed in realising over £1.9hn of assets.

Roly Crawford, head of investment trusts at ABN Amro, said the managers would need holders wanting to sell their enonly 6 per cent a year to get the rewards: "The whole issue is a vestment trust, geared up to finance the buyback, would be getting quite a good fee anyway, worth less. They also questioned you would have thought they would have a tougher task."



Michael McLintock (left), group chief executive of M&G, and Sir Peter Davis, group chief executive of the Prudential, announcing the deal yesterday

# Pru buys M&G for agreed £1.9bn

CHARITY COLLECTS

THE ESMEE Fairbairn Chari- in the war. Backing for the trust

after the wife of M&G's founder & General Companies. By 1959

First British Fixed Trust, in the stock exchange. The name

1931. Mrs Fairbairn was killed was shortened to M&G in 1989.

Panel may force BICC bid disclosure

for acquisitions.

an offer for BICC.

biggest life insurer, is to buy M&G, the country's largest unit trust group, in a £1.9bn agreed

term savings products, is making a cash offer of £25 a share, a premium of 40 per cent to Wednesday's closing share price.

M&G, which has a customer base of 730,000 and some £18.5bn funds under management, will coerate as an autonomous unit within the Pru, giving the group a unit trust business to stand alongside its growing stable of retail financial brands including Scottish Amicable and Egg.

Sir Peter Davis, the Pru chief executive, said: "The combination of the Prudential and M&G creates leading market positions in the UK retail and investment product sectors."

Analysis said that the Pru needed to expand its unit trust business dramatically in response to the growing shift out of traditional life insurance and savings, a process that is likely to accelerate as a result of the Government's attempts to en-

THE TAKEOVER Panel could

force Wassall, the acquisitive

mini-congiomerate, to reveal

whether it is planning a takeover

of BICC, the troubled cables

and engineering group, within

the next few weeks, writes

Insiders believe that the reg-ulatory body could ask Wassall,

Francesco Guerrera.

THE PRUDENTIAL, Britain's By ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

courage more people to save. M&G will take on the running Rod Kent, the chairman of The Pru, which said the deal of the Pru's existing unit trusts' M&G, said the group had been over M&G's institutional client base. There were also hints that Michael McLintock, M&G's largest mortgage bank, but reyouthful chief executive, is being cently went back to the Pru. The lined up as a potential long- Pru had originally approached term successor to Sir Peter, who is 58 this year.

M&G's largest shareholder, made the most sense. "This is the Esmee Fairbairn Charitable" a good strategic fit but also a Trust, has agreed to sell its engood cultural fit," Mr Kent said. tire 33.3 per cent, conditional on

table Trust, a major donor to

the arts and education, is

M&G's largest shareholder

with 33.3 per cent. It is named

lan Fairbairn, who launched

Britain's first unit trust, the

cent in BICC, to declare its in-

tentions in an official stockmar-

ment but Wassall fuelled ru-

mours of a bid yesterday when it said it could issue a high-yield

bond of up to £100m to finance

last year's acquisition of Thorn

Lighting Group. The chief ex-

The Panel declined to com-

ket announcement.

which has a stake of over 9 per ecutive Christopher Miller said

the deal receiving the necessary had to pay a pretty full price in regulatory approval, as have return for having an exclusive ther 0.44 per cent.

by a number of potential buyers including the Halifax, Britain's M&G a year ago after deciding that it was the partner that

Analysts said the Pru had

came from an engineering firm

White Drummond & Company

which had its own securities

business known as Municipal

the firm had outgrown its ong-

inal parent and was floated on

Speculation of a bid by

Wassall, known as a shrewd

buyer of underperforming small

firms, has been mounting since

last month when the company said its investment might lead to

The prospect of a takeover

M&G's directors who own a fur-run at M&G. But, having done so, it was now unlikely to see it-Rod Kent, the chairman of self trumped by a higher bid. Richard Burden at Goldman

> bid. But banks and insurance companies are not going cheap. This deal is strategically right." The Pru is paying the equivalent of 10 per cent of assets under management. That compares with the 3 per cent paid by

Merrill Lynch to buy Mercury Asset Management last year. Jonathan Bloomer, the Pru's finance director, said: "The price is full but fair. It reflects firstly the fact that the deal has a degree of certainty and second the scarcity value of M&G, which until yesterday was the only in-

dependently quoted asset man-ager in the UK of any real size. "After having a couple of rough years, the changes Michael McLintock has made

are starting to pay off." He expects cost savings of £10m a year, mainly as a result of eliminating the costs associated with M&G's plc status and from pooling resources.

slump in the cables market. In

the three weeks since Wassall's

statement the shares rose 34 per

cent to 89.50 before falling back

to yesterday's 80.5p as the spec-

ulation faded. The volatility is be-

lieved to have triggered fears of

a "false market" in the stock,

with investors encouraged to buy

## Lafontaine resignation sends euro soaring

THE EURO soared yesterday af- BY DIANE COYLE ternoon after the surprise resignation of Oskar Lafontaine the controversial German finance minister, overshadowing record share price gains in London and New York.

Within minutes of the announcement, the euro, which had earlier languished near its record lows, gained more than 2 cents against the dollar to \$1.10 while German government bonds also made sharp

Analysts said the euro, which has performed poorly against other leading currencies since its launch at the beginning of the year, would benefit from an end to the political uncertainty caused by tensions within the German government.

There was also relief at an end to the public row between tail sales data helped the Dow Mr Lafontaine and the Euro- Jones to break through the pean Central Bank over his 9,900 barrier for the first time. calls for interest rates to be cut. Alison Cottrell, chief economist at PaineWebber, said: "The

markets love it because Red Oskar has gone." She said the removal of political pressure on the European Central Bank and the

strengthening of the euro made tinent more likely. Gwyn Hacche, an analyst at HSBC James Capel, said: "We can hope the next finance min-

ister will keep his mouth shut, and will be rather more business-friendly."

leading UK and US shares agree sizeable production cuts.

AND LEA PATERSON

stormed to new record highs. with analysts surprised yet again by the US economy's capacity for non-inflationary

The bullish sentiment on Wall Street spilled over to stocks in London, where the FTSE 100 set both a new intraday record and a new record

More than 1.2 billion shares changed hands, and by the end of the day the FTSE was up 94.2 points at 6,335.7, off its earlier peak of 6,360.3. The more broadly-based

FTSE All Share Index also benefited from the Dow's surge, setting a new record close of 2,908.34. Stronger-than-expected re-

Official estimates of retail

sales growth in January were sharply revised upwards, from 0.2 to 1 per cent. Initial growth rates for February were also ro-Ken Wattret at Paribas said:

"We are now seemingly back to the Goldilocks scenario of low the Fed just sitting on its hands."

The recent jump in oil prices gave shares in London and New York a helping hand. Oil producers, including Shell and BP all recorded sizeable gains Before the announcement, on hopes that Opec would soon

## Canary Wharf valued at £2bn

CANARY WHARF, the giant office BY JOHN WILLCOCK development in London's docklands, has set the price range of in 1995. His 11 per cent stake in its flotation at 280-350p, valuing the company at £1.9bn to £2.3bn and making it Europe's third largest property company.
The group published its

prospectus yesterday, saying that it is placing 167m shares, representing some 25 per cent of the enlarged share capital. The placing will be to insti-

tutions only, raising £470m to £585m. Peter Anderson, head of finance at Canary Wharf, said there would be no retail offer via private client stockbrokers or independent financial advisers.

Paul Reichmann's family founded the development in the 1980s only to lose control of it to the banks in the subsequent property crash. The secretive Canadian developer came back sparked a rise in BICC shares. BICC shares in the hope of a bid. I at the head of an investor group

Canary Wharfwill increase to 15 per cent if he chooses to exercise warrants granted to him in the float - and if the shares top the strike price of 450p. George Iacobescu, Canary

" - That is a

in the second

Argenta

Wharf's chairman, said that none of the existing investors want to sell following the float, and that they have all agreed to a six month "lock-in" period. Altogether 17 senior execu-

tives of the group will be granted options in the float equivalent to just over 1.5 per cent of the share capital exercisable as long as the shares rise by 15 per cent a year for three years.

These executives already have a roughly equal number of options granted previously, giv-ing them a stake in the float worth a possible £70m.

#### AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

the deal would free up resources which had been savaged by a

#### LONDON

BLUE CHIPS roared to a record high. Footsie closed 94.2 points up at 6,335.7; at one time it was 118 to the good. Trading was again heavy with share turnover put at 1.3 billion. The excitement spread to supporting shares, although their indices remain below their peaks.

The £1.9bn Prudential takeover bid for the M&G unit trust group and a strong oil sector on hopes that Opec will cut production were the prime reasons for the advance. A rampant New York display was another important influence. Derek Pain, page 25

#### NEW YORK THE DOW JONES broke through

second successive day amid optimism about sharp Opec production cuts. Chevron, the oil group, was among the Dow's biggest gainers. Shares in rival Exxon also rose sharply.

Coca-Cola, which has lost 10 per cent of its value over the last year, rose on the back of a positive broker recommendation.

#### ● TOKYO

JAPANESE SHARES gave up most of the 9,900 barrier for the first time | their day's gains as profit-taking set yesterday, following the release of in during late Tokyo trade. The stronger-than-expected retail sales | Nikkei 225 average closed 22.14

points higher at 15,502.14, having hit Oil stocks gained sharply for the a high of 15,840.23 earlier in the day. Underlying sentiment was firm amid hopes that the economy could at last be on the road to recovery. Bank shares jumped in heavy

volume, with traders bullish following recent confirmation of major restructuring plans. One said: "I can't say that the sector has turned the corner yet, but it is getting better."

#### PARIS

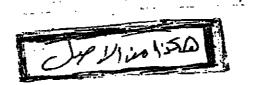
BNP'S BID for Société Générale and Paribas helped push volume on the Paris bourse to its secondhighest level in history. Shares worth 4.1 billion euros changed hands, just short of the all-time record volume of 4.49 billion set in June last year.

The CAC-40 eventually closed at 4184.38, up 22 points, having broken through 4,200 earlier in the session. About 4.3 per cent of SocGen's share capital changed hands, oushing the share price up almost 14 per cent. Paribas and BNP also ended sharply higher.

#### FRANKFURT

GERMAN STOCKS ended more than I per cent higher, spurred on by strong gains in the banking sector. Dresdner Bank surged almost 5 per cent and HypoVereinsbank 8.5 per cent on the back of positive sentiment generated by the BNP bid for rival French banks Paribas and SocGen. This helped the Xetra Dax index close up 55.32 points at 4,785.37.

News of the resignation of Oskar Lafontaine, the German finance minister, did not break until after the stock market had



# A fancy price for a household name

THERE MIGHT already have been an American version of the same thing, but as far as Britain is concerned, the concept of a unit trust was invented by a man called lan Pairbairn sometime before the Second World War and originally sold through a company called Mutual and General. This was the precursor of the present M&G Group.

Despite some ups and downs, and what in recent years has been an alarmingly poor investment performance against many of its peers.
M&G remains today the most widely recognised household name in unit trusts. Whether such brand awareness justifies the very full price of £1.9bn Prudential has agreed to pay for it is another matter.

The Pru's Sir Peter Davies is forking out a whopping 35.3 times earnings, or about 10 per cent of funds under management. Using the second yardstick as a measure, this looks expensive against the 3 per cent Merrill Lynch paid last year for Mercury Asset Manage-

:70rtn

270rtn

280rtn

MAM's investment performance has been nothing to write home about of late either, but it has looked positively sparkling against that of M&G, whose flagship (non)



#### **OUTLOOK**

Recovery fund has fallen 8 per cent in value in the last year alone. A recent survey by Bloomberg Money found that few independent financial advisers - traditionally a big source of sales for M&G - were prepared to recommend M&G to clients right now.

Michael McLintock, managing director, claims to have changed the investment approach at M&G quite radically over the past two years, so that there are now trusts for all comers, from trackers to bonds and traditional "value" funds. It is more than possible, therefore, that M&G's present reputation for poor Pru has a hill to climb in persuad-

ing the City it has not overpaid. The price justification lies principally in three things. The first is he's going the acquisition route. The that M&G, unlike MAM, is primarily a higher-margin retail fund manager and can therefore expect to command a better price. Martyn

Arbib's Perpetual, for instance, trades at 11 per cent of funds under management, and that's with no bid premium in the price at all.

The second is scarcity value there aren't many independent fund management groups of size left to buy. And the third is the enhanced value the Pru might extract by passing M&G through its own distribution channels, and via the greater marketing spend the Pru will be able to put behind M&G's

No one questions the Pru's need to diversify in financial services and add new products. To some extent, it already has. As demand for traditional life products has fallen away the Pru has been active in getting its fingers into a number of different pies. When the price of buying a building society, or newly converted bank, slipped away from him, Sir Peter set up Egg instead value lags the reality. Even so, the as a way of taking the Pru into the deposit and retail banking market.

With unit trusts, PEPs and other forms of retail fund management, strategy seems fine, but the price, given the very limited cost savings the Pru plans to extract from the takeover, seems a fancy one.

#### Super Dow

SO IT LOOKS like Abby Cohen is going to be right after all. "Superbull" Cohen, chief investment strategist at Goldman Sachs, caused much merriment among the stock market bears last autumn, when, at the height of the market turnoil, she uredicted that the Dow could hit 10,000 within a year. Ms Cohen has had plenty of good market calls in her time, but this is the one she is likely to be remembered for.

Six months on, with the Dow storming to yet another record high, it's the gloom-and-doom merchants who have been left with egg on their face. Ms Cohen, in contrast, has been fully vindicated. If anything, her predictions are now looking a little on the cautious side.

So the great Wall Street bull market rolls on apace. Or does it? The Dow Jones Industrial Average, to

give the index its full name, is far from representative of the US equity market as a whole. It consists of just 30 stocks, many of which, as the name suggests, are at the heartland of traditional US

Other US stocks, particularly smaller companies, are faring less well. The Russell 2000 index of small-cap stocks, for example, is languishing almost 20 per cent below the high it hit in the spring

And among the bigger boys, the Dow Jones Transport Average is trading more than 10 per cent below its 1998 peak Internet stocks. too, are beginning to fall out of favour Amazon.com, once the market's darling, is now around 25 per cent off its highs.

In other words, the Dow gives a quite misleading impression of what is happening to US equities more generally. Nearly all stock prices have recovered markedly from last autumn's wobble, but the bulk of the market by number, if not value, remains subdued.

The same cannot be said for the rest of the US economy. Judging by vesterday's retail sales figures, the boom continues apace, with no

sign of a let-up. The consequence own brainchild. He has invested of this is that eventually inflation will pick up again in the US - no economy can withstand such an acceleration in the pace of spending without generating some price pressures somewhere. Any resur-

gence in inflation is bound, by prompting a rise in short-term interest rates, to put the brakes on the Dow's recent breathtaking pace of growth. Unfortunately, predicting that ventually there will be a prolonged setback in the Dow is the

easy bit. Much more difficult is to pinpoint the timing and depth of any such correction. In the meantime, it is hard to disagree with the seemingly infallible Ms Cohen that the Dow bull has got a little bit longer to run vet.

#### Electric defence

MICHAEL STODDART, chairman of Electra Investment Trust, has stirred the pot and come up with a really quite decent defence against Si's unwanted £1.2bn bid.

For Mr Stoddart, this takeover battle is about more than just money. Electra is very much his much of his life's work in this company, which was founded in 1973. Over the years, Electra has contained some fabulous investments.

It has always irked him that 3i manages to trade at a premium to assets, while his own baby languishes at a chunky discount. Over the years, this difference has gnawed at his soul. When 3i made its surprise bid in January, it therefore seemed more like an insult than an offer.

So he is desperate to see the invader off. Net assets have been valued at 915p a share and there's to be a tender offer to buy back 40 per cent of the trust's capital. You never really know what a venture capital trust is worth, since its investments are largely unquoted. One person's guess is as good as another's. But if 3i is prepared to pay 705p in paper and cash, it is a racing certainty that it is worth quite a lot

The judgement investors have to make is whether 786p a share for 40 per cent of their holding, plus their remaining holding in the highly geared rump, is worth more than 705p for the whole. The market is right to say that it is.

# A £30bn merger to shatter the cosy world of French banking over Eurostar

News Analysis: BNP's bid for two of its rivals has broken the taboo on hostile takeovers in France. If it goes through, anything could happen

IN FRANCE, they do these BY JOHN LICHFIELD things differently. Or they used in Paris

over bid by France's second- recent years. It is also a further largest bank, Banque example of how the coming of Nationale de Paris (BNP), for the euro, and the lowering of the country's fourth and fifthbiggest banks has left the the EU, are forcing the re-French government and fi-structuring and rationalisation nancial world gasping for of the European banking sector. breath if the £30hn three way must still be open to doubt-it iiid be the largest financial Transaction in French history and the second largest in the history of world banking.

Overnight, it would give the French banking industry - traditionally weakened by moderate size and government interference - one of the largest private banking groups in the world. The new bank would be the largest in Euroland and the third largest in the EU.

The startling offer by BNP as if NatWest and Barclays had agreed to merge and Lloyds TSB stepped in to buy both shattered several French taboos at one stroke. There was no consultation between the top-brass of the companies (as there had been when the target lanks, Société Générale and aribas agreed amicably to join forces last month). There was no consultation with the government, which is now threatening to intervene. There was no consultation with the powerful banking unions.

To this extent, the proposed merger is an example of the march of tougher Anglo-Saxon attitudes through the cosy and corporatist world of French business. This is the first hostile takeover bid in the French banking industry but it is cer-

This week's hostile take- tainly not the first in France in barriers to financial services in

Looked at another way, howclassically French about BNP's approach and its motives. The BNP director-general, Michel Pébereau, seems to be more interested in size and empirebuilding for its own sake than rationalisation or efficiency or shareholder value.

He promises to create a French bank of global scale, which would be capable of competing succesfully in Euroland and the world. Economies of scale, however, would mostly be found by merging the three banks' computer networks and possibly their head-

quarters. There would be be no closure of high street banks, even though BNP and Société Générale branches stand side by side in small towns all over France. Paribas is a commercial bank but also has regional and local offices which would, it is promised, remain unscathed. There would be no enforced redundancies.

Mr Pébereau, 58, is not an entrepreneur in the Anglo-Saxon sense. He is an archetypical French bureaucrat and business manager: a high grad-uate of the ENA elite finishing school for civil servants, a former chef de cabinet at the fi-His curriculum vitae is sim-

Michel Pébereau (left), director-general of BNP, arriving in London on Wednesday with the chief operating officer, James Margan/Reuters | barriers that operating as three

Baudouin Prot. BNP's offer is the first hostile bid in the French banking industry

ilar to those of other ENA grad- the world and the new sponsor Kahn seemed to be doing little uates who brought such misery to French state-owned enterprises, such as Elf and Crédit of Axa, which owns a large Lyonnais in the 1980s and early

His declared motives - the creation of a French banking champion of global importance - are the same as those which drove Credit Lyonnais to a series of grandiose schemes and breathtaking losses, for which the French taxpayer is still footing the bill.

Unlike that unhappy dirigiste experiment, the proposed Gallic banking giant would be privately owned and would be placing private capital at risk. The root problem with Crédit Lyonnais - a French version of the Savings and Loans scandal in America – was that the bank's exceutives were allowed, or even encouraged, to speculate with public or publicly guar-

anteed funds. The main driving force bebind the double BNP bid is France's most successful private financial institution, the insurance group AXA - the second largest insurance company in BNP in the cold. Mr Strauss-

of the FA Cup.

Claude Bébéar, President chunk of both BNP and Paribas, is said to see the new super-bank as the vehicle that can drive French capitalism into the 21st century. Mr Bébezu, who is a more Anglo-Saxon type of businessman, expects to be riding in the back-seat of this limousine, calling at least some of the routes and destinations.

Despite his civil service background, it is Mr Pébereau who is taking the bigger risk. If he fails, he is likely to lose his job. His four previous attempts to take over smaller French banks have failed.

The double bid for the other banks - it would be an "association" of equals, he claims, not a takeover - gives Mr Pébereau the satisfaction of scrambling the plans of the Finance Minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn. The finance ministry had, in the traditional corporatist fashion, warmly welcomed the Paribas-SG merger, which left

to help BNP in its ambition to take control of part of Crédit Lyonnais when it is finally pri-

vatised later this year. Now Mr Strauss-Kahn, the most Blairist and reconstructed of French socialists, faces a dilemma. At one level, the BNP proposals offer him just what successive French governoments have wanted: a French bank capable of playing with the world's big boys and promoting France's wider commercial interests.

But the manner of Mi Pébereau's bid suggests that the putative giant - Societé de Banque de Paris (SBP) is the working title - might break free once and from all from government influence on the banking sector Mr Strauss-Kalm might welcome that in theory but is likely to be more doubtful about the implications in

practice. The creation of such a giant also reduces the government's options for the privatisation of Crédit Lyonnais and might make some form of foreign stake in the recuperating, state-owned bank inevitable. Worse, it might have started a free-for-all in which large, foreign banks come looking for a wider share of the spoils including, if Mr Pebereau fails, BNP itself. Once the taboo on hostile takeovers has been broken, anything could happen.

The signs are that the French government will do everything in its power to block the proposed merger. If so, the battle will be a bloody and instructive one, pitting the finance ministry and the Banque de France against France's second biggest bank and - in AXA - its most succesful financial institution.

That should show how much Colbertian power to intervene in the private economy the French government retains in this global, market-driven age.

## French meet their Waterloo

FRANCE'S STATE-owned rail- By PHILIP THORNTON way may have met its Waterloo. SNCF and the Belgian state operator SNCB are surrendering key functions in the running of Eurostar, the international passenger rail service, to a new company based at the London train station named after Wellington's famous military vic-

Eurostar Group will be run by a board of directors from the three operating railways, and headed by Hamish Taylor the managing director of Eurostar (UK), who will become its chief

The group said the catalyst for the move had been the award of sales and personnel will remain ent contract for Eurostar (UK), the private sector British operating arm, to Inter-Capital and Regional Rail (ICRR), a consortium of SNCF. three countries involved but SNCB, British Airways and National Express

Last week Eurostar said it had increased revenues by 29 per cent in 1998 following a costcutting programme and better marketing

Mr Taylor said: "If we wish to continue this excellent progress we must remove the internal

Transport Correspondent

separate companies inevitably create."

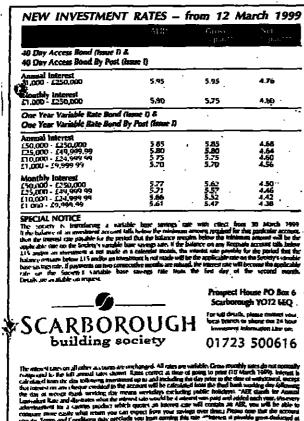
Eurostar Group said the new structure would allow greater efficiencies, faster decision making and would eliminate duplication - or even triplication of activities and costs.

Under the new system, a number of key functions - commercial, budgets, co-ordination, corporate communications, legal services and IT systems will be run from Waterloo on behalf of the three railways. But production, ancillary revenue. the domains of each company

David Azema, the chairman of Eurostar Group, said: "It will not be dominated by any of the presents an opportunity to enhance this cosmopolitan experience and create a unique public/private sector, pan-Eu-

ropean business model." Eurostar (UK) last week announced it had cut its annual losses from £135m to £90m and forecast it would break even on target in 2005, five years before the ICRR franchise expires.

com



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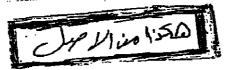
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THE INDEPENDENT

## US consumers can't save us from global recession for ever

LOS ANGELES - How long can the American consumer continue to save the world from global recession? At the recent Davos meeting the US Vice President Al Gore, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and his deputy Larry Summers all made the point that the US could not continue to be the main source of consumption in the world. Other countries had to pick up the baton.

On Wednesday Robert Rubin said it again. "This is not," he said, referring to the imbalance between growth in the US and the rest of the world, "along-term healthy situation. To have a healthy global economy over a Austained period of time, all the "najor parts need to be healthy" He still expected the US to have solid growth this year, but was concerned about the prospect for 2000 and beyond. Europe and Japan had to pump up domestic demand.

Eventually they may - more of that in a moment - but meanwhile how long can Americans continue to go on boosting spending? Here, on Rodeo Drive, the epicentre of West Coast American consumerism, the boom continues with determined zeal. To the British visitor the most revealing aspect of shopping in Los Angeles is that you don't even need to park your car. The store does that for you. If valet parking were brought to Brent Cross think how much anore rewarding the shopping experience would be. America of fers not only an abundance of goods; it also offers, at least for the rich, an abundance of service.

But, of course, American consumption is not sustained just by the glitzy West Coast. You would pened to income differentials, the rich to be self-confident about their economic futures and to vestment may simply be wasted. want to show it. What is perhaps more remarkable is the breadth of the boom, for the not-so-well- much more important than simoff are spending more too. That shows in the savings figures, or rather lack of savings figures, for household saving went negative last autumn. For the year as: a whole it was only 0.5 per cent the lowest level since 1983.

Much of the confidence sup-Conting this spending must be the result of rising share prices, rather as Britons in the late 1980s were prepared to carry on spending because they felt rich on the back of rising house prices. The Dow Jones index hit another all-time high this week and seems to be heading towards the 10,000 mark. This leads to the obvious question of what might happen were Wall Street to fall



MCRAE

The Americans will shop till they drop or at least until Wall Street drops

BUT WALL STREET hasn't And in any case there is such momentum behind the spending boom, it will surely take some time to slow down. In January it climbed by \$14.7bn, the largest increase for three years. The result of such confidence by consumers is shown in the graph; the US looks like having another year when growth in consumption, at 3.8 per cent, will exceed growth in the economy as a whole of 3.4 per cent. No other Group of Seven country seems likely to reach 3 per cent growth either in consumption or in GDP

The proportion of consumption to GDP will therefore rise further It is already (see graph) the highest of the G7 countries at nearly 68 per cent of GDP, more than 10 percentage points higher than Germany. There is nothing wrong with reasonably high consumption rates in the sense that the whole purpose of an economy is to give people the best possible standard of living. The popular view that consumption is somehow bad and investment good ignores the fact that a lot of what is classed as inas Japan has shown.

Using investment efficiently is

ply having a lot of it. (A good ex- ing in consumption leading to a ample is nuclear power. Nuclear power stations cost roughly ibree-times as much as conventional ones, so switching from conventional to nuclear power shows up as higher inrestment. But the actual power produced is no higher and consumption has had to be lower. So-

ciety is poorer as a result.) Nevertheless, if high consumption shows up in a wide current account deficit as it has in the US, it does ultimately become unsustainable. The deficit is now 3 per cent of GDP. UK consumption is relatively high too, but while the current account has deteriorated sharply since last summer it was actually in surplus in the first part of 1998, and the deficit will still be only about 0.5 per cent of GDP this year. We are more or less OK - the US is pushing the limits

WHAT THE US consumer is doing, however, is enormously helpful to the world economy at this particular time. If the forecasts for strong consumption growth in the chart are right, and if Mr Rubin is also right in expecting solid US growth this year, then there is a window of opportunity for Europe and Japan to stoke up demand so that the baton can be passed from America to the rest of the developed world by 2000.

Assume then that the US consumers can be relied upon to deliver good growth this year. But assume too that if they weaken the problem will be translated quickly into share values.

Just this week a survey by Mercer Management Consultants looked at 100 of the top 1000 US companies that had suddenly lost 25 per cent or more of their stock market value in recent years. The most important single reason for that loss of value was unexpectedly soft consumer demand. It is very easy to paint the gloomy scene of a weakenfall in share prices, which in turn would lead to a further weakening in consumption, and so on.

The key will be Japan and Germany, partly because their size is so great. Private consumption in Japan and Germany combined is \$3,750bn. compared with the US at \$5,500bm. No other country in the world consumes over \$1,000hn -Britain and France are each about \$850bm.

The Japanese tale of wo continues almost certainly for this year and the best hope is that growth will be resumed at last by 2000. Germany, you might expect, would profit from the general European upturn, but the fact that growth was negative in the last three months of last year is ominous. German consumers say in surveys that they are becoming more optimistic, but do not yet em to be buying much more.

At least the big picture of the world economy is becoming clearer. We know the two questions. Question one is: will the US consumers carry on spending hard until demand elsewhere picks up? And question two is: when they ease up, will Japanese and German consumers pick up the running?

The intuitive answer to the first question, which I think anyone spending some time in the US would give, is that the boom still has considerable legs. Americans are very self-confident at the moment. They are doing the world a great service. It is their patriotic duty to spend money. They will shop till they drop - or at least till Wall Street drops.

For Japan and Germany, of course, the mood is utterly different. It is their patriotic duty to be cautious and save money. Consumption will eventually recover, for it always does. But they need to learn a little of the Rodeo Drive culture if they are to save the world economy. Maybe they should introduce valet parking THE GREAT AMERICAN CONSUMER



## John Lewis profits drop 17%

JOHN LEWIS Partnership, the department store and Waitrose retailer, yesterday warned of a "sticky few months ahead" as it reported a 17 per cent fall in full-year profits.

However, a VAT refund means that the partnership's 39,000 staff will receive a profit share bonus equivalent to 19 per cent salary, although this is down from last year's 22 per

This will give the entry level £8,000-a-year shopiloor worker a £1,400 pay-out while a £24,000-a

**Associate City Editor** 

-year manager will get £3,800. Commenting on the outlook, Stuart Hampson, the John Lewis chairman, said: "I foresee a sticky few months ahead. The second half might be a little easier as we run towards the millennium, but this is a year for taking every week as it comes."

nothing in Tuesday's Budget to lead to a "feel good factor". But he added: "All we need is for a consumers to blow non-food retailing out of the doldrums."

Furnishings and fabrics did well but the audio-television ranges were hit by "customer hesitation" as digital products are introduced. Stripping out a £33.5m VAT refund, profits fell 17 per cent

to £225m on sales up 2 per cent to £3.5bn. Mr Hampson was He added that he had seen downbeat on prospects for the which saw flat sales last year.

little more confidence among at the turn of the year as an indicator of the mamediate trading pattern.

The flat figures included the Cribbs Causeway store which opened near Bristol last year. Two other large stores are due to open at the Bluewater Park shopping centre, which opens in Kent on Tuesday, and at Glasgow's Buchman Gallery at the end of the mouth,

Sales in the Waitrose super markets rose 3 per cent and a store expansion programme is under way at the chain.

## Old Mutual members to get £400 windfall

MEMBERS OF Old Mutual, the BY ANDREW VERITY South African-based life insurer, yesterday voted over- so many members took part whelmingly in favour of and voted Yes'. de-mutualising the society in a decision that will benefit with the implementation of ,000 UK policyholders.

were in favour of floating the insurer, bringing 300 windfall to each member. Only 0.3 per cent of voters were opposed.

The vote has been portrayed as a moment of "economic empowerment" in South Africa, where the value of the windfall equates to more than a year's salary for a large proportion of the

Mike Levett, Old Mutual's chairman and chief executive, said: "This is a milestone in the history of Old Mutual. We are delighted that 1997.

our plans for the benefit of More than 99.5 per cent of members, Old Mutual and votes cast by Old Mutual Southern African." The insurer will list in London as well as Johannes-

shares worth more than £400 burg. Shares in the insurer are expected to begin trading towards the end of June with an estimated share price of 11 to 14 rand, or around £1.25.

nounced at a special general meeting held in Cape Town, South Africa, was the climax of more than 18 months of preparation.

tionally".

"We can now move forward

The result of the ballot, an-

The intention to float the insurer - by far the largest insurer in South Africa – was first made public in August

John Willis, the Servisair any redundancies among

African and British policyholders, but also members in Bermuda, Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe - subject to the approval of the courts in each

It will benefit not only South

More than 900 employees of Capel Cure Sharp, the private client broker, are also set to receive 300 shares each.

ations in the UK since the early part of the century, owning Old Mutual International and Old Mutual Asset Management in the UK.

But it has made few significant inroads into the UK life insurance market.

Some observers have been critical of the insurer's record on lapsing life insurance policies - a key factor in judging the quality of financial advice provided by its sales

Servisair's 5,000 staff.

The Servisair takeover is a

victory for Jean-Claude Pe-

nauille, the chairman, chief ex-

shareholder of the French firm.

Mr Penauille has grown the

company from a small cleaning

firm into a company quoted on

the Paris bourse with a market value of over £200m and opera-

tions ranging from industrial

cleaning to facilities manage

ment. The success by Penauil

is a major blow for Amey, which

wanted to acquire Servisair to

boost its transformation from

low-margin construction group

into a high growth services

#### IN BRIEF

#### Rexam set for further sell-offs REXAM, the paper and films

group, yesterday said it boned to sell its printing and building/engineering businesses by the end of this year and was looking for more bolt-on acquisitions. The group, which recently received the go-ahead from Brussels for its £380m merger with the Swedish packaging group PLM, has sold over 20 businesses in the past two years.

yesterday closed down 2p at 202.5p after it reported a slight fall in pre-tax profits before goodwill and exceptionals from £190m to £186m last year.

#### Leisure merger

ALLIED LEISURE, the tenpin bowling group, yesterday merger with the snooker halls operator European Leisure in deal that will create a new group worth

Allied Leisure yesterday reported a rise in profits before tax to £1.6m (£1.5m) in the second half of 1998.

#### Watchdogs move

OFFER AND OFGAS, the gas and electricity watchdogs. will merge into a central office in London within the next year, the directorgeneral for electricity and gas supply, Callum McCarthy, said yesterday. Offer will move from Birmingham while Ofgas will move out of its current London premises into new larger premises which it will share with

**BA goes Dutch** BRITISH AIRWAYS has signed up Base Airlines, a Dutch partner, adding seven routes

to its European network.

## Amey bid for Servisair trumped

Name	Turnover (£)	Pre-tax (£)	EP\$	Dividend	Pay day	X-div
Alliad Leisere (I)	28.6m (22.1m)	1.8m (1.5m)	1,319 (1,179)	0.38p (0.35p)	tha	1ta
Acces (F)	2.721bn (2.774ba)	69.2er (68.4m)	17,8p (16.5p)	6,25p (5.0p)	01.07.99	10.05.95
Autoc (r) Ash & Larry (F)	132,12m (151,37m)	9.82m (11.32m)	18,26p (21,11p)	8.2p (-)	21.05.99	22.03.9
ASIL & LENY (L.)	135.7m (30.83m)	7.08m (3.39m)	23.90 (8.60)	7.5p (7.3p)	the .	tha
Sostress (F)	496.46m (375.35m)	47,71m (85.11m)	· 24.30 (27.8b)	11.8p (9.8p)	07.05.99	22 63 9
Spreads (F) Standard (F)	14.25a) (12.11m)	3.02m (-\$1.64m)	0.61p (-6.80p)	0.1p (→)	-	22 13 9
Courtesids Textiles (F)	893.0m (911.5m)	25.1m (38.4m)	15.50 (26.40)	15.30 (15.30)	18.05.99	12.04.9
CON promotes Holygous (SS)	~ <del>[~]</del>	18.3m (20.34m)	10.20 (13.00)	3.5p (3.1p)	26.05.99	28,04,9
Cox versionics formula (F) Davis Senice Brown (F)	407.98m (407.69m)	55.06m (41.00m)	27.40p (21.04p)	12,60a (11,33p)	16.05.99	19.04.9
Diagno (I)	8,27brt (8,72brt)	972.0m (716.0m)	18.5p (8.8a)	7.8o (-)	30.04.99	22.03.9
MLI Glesson Green (7)	121.31m (112.85m)	4,15m (5.73m)	28.32n (43.02n)	4,670 (4,440)	30.06.99	24.05.98
Hembressy Properties (F)	- (−)	5.16m (7.79m)	2.21p (3.21p)	0.67p (0.61p)	31.05.99	D4.05.9
Handigeog Fragulados (F)	385.27m (257.46m)	2.72m (6.27m)	3.4p (10.2p)	1,61p (3,29p)	-	_
Keller Greate (F)	266.85m (244.65m)	16.7m (13.8m)	18.80 (15.90)	7,1p (6.45p)	28.05.99	22,03.9
Lescont Holdings (F)	83.17m (95.73m)	1.50m (7.49m)	4,43p (20.01p)	3,650 (12,80)	tha.	the
Magalit (F) —	293.9m (265.1m)	35.4m (31.5m)	10.30 (9.4p)	3.53p (3.2p)	02.07.99	06.04.9
Mice Groom (F)	39.79m (26.28m)	2.58m (1.70m)	0.98p (0.66p)	0.3p (-)	04,05.99	06.04.9
	JA 10.58m (8.77m)	2.15m (1.75m)	14.0p (11.89p)	3.3p (3.0p)	07,06.99	10.05.9
Oceans Mont House's (F)	402.8m (394.8m)	33.0m (35.0m)	8.5p (8.4p)	# (-)	-	-
Paramount (i)	3.86m (2.47m)	0.236m (0.081m)	0.92p (-0.28p)	nii ()		-
Portmeirles Patierles (F)	26.01m (30.78m)	1.0m (5.52m)	3.350 (35.040)	13.25p (13.25p)	01,D6.89	04.05.9
Rest Espeiar (F)	3,16bn (2.99bn)	*773.0m (823.0m)	**26.4p (-)	15.0p (14.5p)	tica.	100
Recen (F)	1.92ba (2.04bn)	182.0m (179.0m)	*25,10 (24.60)	14.1p (14.1p)	<b>#12</b>	tba
319 (F)	795,78m (689.87m)	35.35m (34.3m)	20.1p (20.0p)	8.40 (-)	14,05.99	29.03.9
Serienboard Venture Mours	un – i⊣	-0.359m (-)	-7 <i>,27</i> p (-)	- <del>( )</del>	-	<del>.</del> .
Tithery Douglas (F)	641.1m (526.4m)	23.8m (22.5m)	18.3p (18.7p)	10.2p (9.6p)	01.07.99	22.03.9
Travis Portion (F)	623.08m (555.84m)	60.58m (49.68m)	39.0p (32.6p)	12.1p (11.0p)	17.05.99	12.04.99
United Bissuits Holes (F)	1.69bn (1.78bn)	79.3m (90.4m)	11.6p (11.1p)	11.Dp (-)	01.07.99	22.03.99

SERVISAIR, the airport services group, looked set to fall into foreign hands last night after the French company Penauille trumped an £81.5m hostile bid from Amey, the UK construction firm, with a £94m

Servisair, which handles baggages and passengers in several UK and European airports, recommended the Paris-based support services 231p. group's offer of 230p a share a 15 per cent premium to Amey's 200p bid.

The appearance of the French white knight prompted several major shareholders Servisair, including Schroders, Framlington and

By Francesco Guerrera

Penaville was believed to be very close to the 50 per cent

threshold last night, after buying around 29 per cent of Servisair's capital in the market and receiving undertakings for another 20 per cent. Servisair shares jumped 24.5p to Amey refused to comment

but insiders said that it was extremely unlikely to increase its bid. Other potential bidders, including the transport group Go-Ahead and the venture capitalist Compass were also considered out of the running.

chairman, said that the offer by Penauille, one of France's largest aiport services businesses, represented "good value for our shareholders and an excellent opportunity for... Servisair to develop interna-

The deal will create a group with turnover of around £450m and over 29,000 employees.

charge of Servisair's UK business, said the geographical fit was excellent as Servisair has no operations in France and Penauille needed to expand in the UK and the rest of Europe.

He said he did not expect

Mr Willis, who will remain in

## Saatchi celebrates 31% profits rise

make double-digit margins in in 1998, writes Peter Thal Larsen.

Reporting a 31 per cent rise in pre-tax profits before exceptionals for 1998, Bob Seelert, the chairman, said the outlook for Saatchi & Saatchi was better than it had been for a long time. Last year was the first full year of trading for the company following its demerger from the advertising giant Cordiant. He pointed out that Saatchi

SAATCHI & SAATCHI, the ad- than in the previous two years vertising group, is likely to combined. Much of the new business had come from two of the current year after raising its the company's largest clients, return on sales to 9.3 per cent Procter & Gamble and Toyota. Since the start of the new

year, Saatchi & Saatchi had added a further \$200m of new business. "We are now positioned as a global agency on a world stage," he said. Mr Seelert dismissed sug-

gestions that Saatchi & Saatchi might be reunited with its founders, Maurice and Charles Saatchi, who are running their own rival agency. Mr Seelert said no talks had taken place & Saatchi had won \$500m of net between the two, adding: "We new business in 1998 - more are two very different animals."

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Hertrein and the

THE INDEPENDENT

# Financials lead blue chips to another peak

BLUE CHIPS stretched to another peak with Footsie climbing 94.2 points to 6,335.7 in heavy trading. At one time it was 118.8 higher.

The charge was led by financials, inspired by the rich 21.9bn Prudential Corporation bid for the M&G unit trust group, and oils, railying on the back of a firmer crude price.

The Dow Jones Average's seemingly relentless advance to the 10,000 points landmark was another supportive influence so round of recent company results and, once again, the sheer reight of money available for investment. Tuesday's Budget was another factor

The long expected takeover of M&G, which had been linked with an array of financial groups ranging from Halifax to Morgan Stanley sent the unit trust group's shares rearing 662.5p higher to a 2,450p peak - a remarkable 520p above the previous high.

Schroders, despite its frequent protestations that it intends to remain independent romped ahead with the voting shares gaining 158p to 1,440p, well below their record, and the non voting 103p to 1,176p.

National Westminster ETTIME Bank joined the cash party with a 73p addition to 1,486p and

> K&H OPTIONS, one of the two London firms which dealt in traditional traded options, has ceased

It is thought to have been hit by the collapse of Irish stockbroker MMI which it put into

liquidation last month. At the time Philip Kitchener, one of K&H's principals, was unable to confirm market remours that his firm was owed

more than £1m. available from K&H yesterday.

Aclays, down to 838p in Oc-Cober, jumped 79p to 1,893p. just 56p below the high point reached last summer:

Others to move ahead included Lloyds TSB, 40p to 980p, and Standard Chartered 36p to 926.5p. Perpetual, the fund manager, rose 412.5p to 4,042.5p and Amvescap added 27.5p to 646.5p. The Pru dipped 16.5p to 797.5p.

BP Amoco led the oil surge. The decressed sector in the dumps as the crude price has collarsed, was inflamed by suggestions that Opec would later today sanction production cuts, which unsurprisingly prompted the crude price to strengthen. BP which has suffered much less damage than other oil groups as tracker funds have sen forced to increase their investments following the Amoco deal, flared 92p to a 1,021.5p peak. Shell, helped by buyback plans, rose 33.75p to

Enterprise Oil, results today, put on 18.5p to 321.5p and

Lasmo 15p to 185p.

The two are talking merger and there are hopes the Enterprise figures could be accomparted by details of a deal although it is known that Lasmo has other suitors. Among the

134.62

### MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

smaller players Premier Oil rose 1.75p to 14.25p and Socco International 4p to 35p. Monument Oil & Gas gained 4.75p

Supporting shares confinued to recover although their indices are still well below their peaks. The mid-cap-index gained 84.3 to 5,493.3 and the small cap 19.1 to 2,353.1. Market turnover was again above one billion shares, reaching more than 1.3 billion.

Other takeover bids helped generate the action. Besides M&G, a mid-cap constituent, Allied Leisure, unchanged at 27.5p, is bidding for European Leisure, up 19p to 92.5p, and paints maker Kalon improved 17.5p to 130p as 66 per cent shareholder, the French Total group, signalled it wanted full

Servisair, the aircraft support group, climbed 24.5p to 231p as a white knight, in the shape of another French group Penauille, appeared, trumping the hostile offer from Amey, the construction group. The French are offering 230p a share against Amey's 200p. It is thought they

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence 400- NATWEST 1000-900 800 700

picked up shares in the market and with acceptances already have almost 50 per cent of

MAMJ J ASOND J FM

Servisair's capital Saltire, a distributor of electrome components, firmed 2.75p to 7p on management buy-out talks. But not all deals are consummated. Packaging group Jarvis Porter fell 8p to 75p as

bid discussions were called off. And English China Clays at one time touched 232p on worries that the £756m bid from the French Imetal group will be blocked; the shares ended unchanged at 234.5p against the

Signet, the jeweller, was the most heavily-traded share with Seaq putting turnover at 84.2 million shares with the price up 2.5p at 48.25p. SG Securities

lifted its target price to 60p. Scottish & Southern, the electricity group, slipped 13.5p to 532.5p as a large line of shares was placed.

# Diageo cheers solid set of results in tough conditions

Associate City Editor

helped by firmer metal prices.

Rio rose 44.5p to 872p and Bil-

liton, ahead of an investment

dinner with Schroders, gained

8p to 142.5p. Billiton, the South

African group soon to be joined in the Footsie by South African

Breweries, has held a series of

investment meetings lately.

Reed International, the

British publishing arm of Reed

Elsevier fell 32.25p to 532.5p on

the no growth warning, and

Rentokil Initial continued to

weaken on the back of last

sinking feeling on worries about

the Government's signalled

nrobe. Gallaher, the tobacco

group on its way out of the Foot-

ie, dropped another lip to

381.25p on its acquisition of RJ

Reynolds British cigarette busi-

Builders, on results, moved

ahead; construction group

Keller firmed 26p to 238.5p

after a 21 per cent profits ad-

vance. Engineers continued to

strengthen with Glynwed In-

ternational 16p higher at

227.5p. Chemicals were also

firm. Laporte, ahead of figures

next week, hardened 47.5p to

Mediakey, the publisher,

which may lead to a cash in-

jection. The shares have come

EDINBURGH FUND

Bank of Scotland

Investors' Chib.

Managers rose 42.5p to

355p; not on the back of

the M&G bid but because

it was named as the active

fund manager for the new

parade. EFM has recently

concluded fund manager

agreements with Clerical

Albany International. The

shares were once 758p.

the fund manager is

capitalised at £99m.

After yesterday's progress

down from 71p. Geo Interactive

Media gained a further 12.5p to

77.50 on stories of a link with

Nokia. Reflex, the reflective

inks group, firmed ip to 6p

after moving back into the

Peter Black, the fashion

and healthcare products group,

firmed 15p to 317.5p on indica-

tions that it is the distributor of

Cellasene, the much heralded

herbal cellulite pill launched this

shares have further to go.

SEAQ VOLUME: 1.3bn

SEAQ TRADES: 98,946

GILTS: 115.04 +2.30

Medical International and

The company was

chosen after a beauty

Waters again displayed that

week's figures.

DIAGEO, Britain's biggest drinks group, yesterday delivered a solid set of half-year results in soite of collapsing markets in Asia and Latin America.

Half-year profits were 12.5 per cent lower at £1.05bn, supported by double-digit profit growth in its main spirits markets of North America and Europe. Smirnoff vodka and Johnnie

Walker Black Label whisky did well in the US. But the UK proved a tough market with sales of Smirpoff, Bell's whisky and Gordon's gin down sub-stantially in the period. Diageo shares edged 2.5p

lower to 719p although the City was encouraged that the cost rings from the £24bn merger Metropolitan in December 1997 are on target at £61m.

Assessing the underlying performance of Diageo is as difficult now as it was under the old Grand Metropolitan accounting regime. This year the picture is clouded by a slew of

DIAGEO: AT A GLANCE Market value: £25.8bn, share price 719p (-2.5p) Trading record Full year to December 11.8 6.7 6.3 Pretax Profit (£bn) 0.72 0.97 23.1 18.5 8.8 Dividends per share (p) 12.5 7.8 12.0 Profit by division (6mm 700 600 500 -400-300 400 DJ FMAMI JASONDJ FM

from disposals, currency effects, the impact of last year's £2.8bn share buy-back and the cost-saving effects.

Stripping all these out, operating profits limped ahead by 3 ture is clouded by a slew of per cent to £1.1m. This might exceptional items, dilutions look unimpressive but is actu-

ally a reasonable achievement given market conditions in major parts of the Diageo

In spirits, profits in the Far East fell from £84m to £56m, with volumes down 30 per cent. In the



John McGrath: Further disposals are planned

includes Latin America, organic profits fell by 25 per cent although Diageo brands outperformed the market.

Following the disposal of its 49 per cent interest in Cantrell & Cochrane other disposals are also planned by John McGrath, the chief executive. These will include 3 per cent of the spirits business which are considered

In packaged foods, where profits fell by 3 per cent partly due to higher cream costs, the outlook is better in the second half. In spirits the horizon is also clearing as the company is now up against weak comparisons last year and markets appears to be bottoming out.

Burger King, long considered by the City as a disposal candidate, is still a core business, according to Diageo. "Quick Service restaurants", as the company now calls its Burger King division, is being helped by the launch of its "stealth fries" which have special crispy coatings. But operating profits there are flat and there is a worrying sales dip in the last two months that is being blamed on the weather. Analysts are concerned that lower advertising spend could

have flattered the figures. With hints of more share buy-backs investors should sit tight, analysts say. But on fullyear forecasts of £1.75bn the shares trade on a full forward rating of 21. After a strong run up from 480p in September, the shares are likely to tread water

## AMEC dampens Reed disappoints City hopes of UK deal with 6% fall in profits

rose 2.5p to 7.75p. It is in talks AMEC, the construction and BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA engineering group, yesterday said it was looking at European acquisitions, dampening hopes of a takeover of a rival UK

> AMEC has been rumoured to have looked at a number of British groups over the past few months and was seen as a potential bidder for the construction division to be spun off

Peter Mason, the AMEC chief executive, admitted that the is its ability to move away from company had looked at domes- the cut-throat contracting busitic construction companies but ness into higher-margin negosaid it had no particular initing, tiated agreements, where est in acquiring volume in the contracts are not awarded to ditional building and avil the lowest bidder.

engineering in the UK market. The turnaround is under Mr Mason did not rule out. way but, with margins of just 1 ras to expand in Europe. The nolles, a French engineer with

yearly sales of £1.6bn, and is likely to exercise its option to buy the rest in 2001. AMEC reported a 50 per

cent increase in 1998 pre-tax profit before exceptionals to £71.4m, on turnover marginally higher at £3.4bn. The market welcomed the result and AMEC's shares soared 25p to an eight-year-high of 238.5p.

The key to AMEC's success

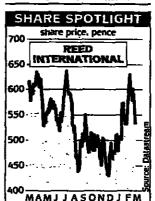
bolt-on purchases in Britain but the cent in some insinesses, said that Amec's primary focus when it said that Amec's primary focus. With the spares on just 12 times new chief executive company already owns 2 42 the 1999 earnings forecast of Reed has been in limbo since per cent stake in Spie Batig around £83m, it is worth buying last summer, when it amounced into AMEC's transformation.

REED ELSEVIER disappointed the stock market again yesterday after the Anglo-Dutch publishing group warned that profits in the

coming year are likely to be flat. Shares in Reed International, the UK holding company, lost 6 per cent of their value, dropping 32.5p to 532.5p after Reed Elsevier reported a 6 per cent fall in underlying pre-tax profits for the year to last December. At the same time Nigel Stapleton and Herman Bruggink, the joint chief executives, said "1999 will not be a year of significant profit

However, the stock market reaction surprised analysts, most of whom had already been forecasting flat profits for the current year. Some said the share price are in the running for the job. Yesreaction was more likely to be the terday, Mr Stapleton would only absence of the appointment of a

plans to appoint a single chiefex- Simon & Schuster, the US pub- stock."



ecutive and chairman. Neither Mr Bruggink nor Mr Stapleton say that the selection process

lishing house, is thought to be a

According to observers, the

leading candidate.

new chief executive's main task will be to revive Reed Elsevier's sales growth. Yesterday's results showed that turnover in Reed's continuing businesses grew by just 6 per cent in 1998. The company's Lexis-Nexis online legal database reported revenues up just 3 per cent as a result of competition with rival Thomson. Overall, profits were hit by

Reed's strategy of investing heavily in preparing its existing publications for electronic publishing. Reed invested £80m last year, and spending is likely to keep running at a similar rate in

Henderson Crostinvaite analyst Louise Barton, who is maintaining her 1999 profit forecast at Jonathan Newcombe, chief out of the way, the current weakexecutive and chairman of ness is an opportunity to buy the

#### Staying in the City

CANARY WHARF is the best thing since sliced bread, according to the investment bankers who are advising on the Docklands property

A round of speculative interest lifted health-care group scheme's float. Fair enough. The people Tepnel Life 6p to 17.5p but Style, the shoe-shop chain, infrom Morgan Stanley Dean Witter should know - they are dicated more problems on the one of the longest established high street, falling 2.5p to 34.5p by forecasting increased losses. tenants of the East End devel-As befits an IT group these days opment. Co-advising Canary Wharf on the float are Cazen-Axon made a spectacular debut, closing at 254p from a ove, those blue-blooded British 175p placing price. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson thinks the brokers. Cazenove still inhabit Tokenhouse Yard in the City,

three miles to the west of Canary Wharf. So at the Canary Wharf press conference yesterday I asked Richard Cotton of Cazenove the obvious question: "When are you moving to

Canary Wharf?" Mr Cotton looked somewhat startled and replied: "We have no present plans to move. Mind

## People and BUSINESS

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

Morgan Stanley, who was also at the briefing, chimed in somewhat gleefully: "They've resisted all persuasion so far." C'mon Caz, show us you really believe in your client.

## On location

THE PRESS conference referred to above was held near the Barbican in the City. Why not in Canary Wharf? After all the pathfinder prospectus published yesterday describes it as "a recognised and established location" with "easy access to the rest of London". What better way to advertise its charms than have its press launch

George Iacobescu, chair-

plained: "We're baving an investors' roadshow here, with lunch and a series of one-hour slots. We'll be having a presentation in Canary Wharf on

Tuesday." Personally I think they were wornied that a delay on the Docklands Light Railway might have provided unwelcome headlines.

## Rage in church

STRIDING THROUGH the Square Mile yesterday I was struck by a poster outside the church of St Botolph's Aldersgate headed: "What about the workers?" Far from signalling a new in-

terest in proletarian revolu-tion among the City's faithful, man of Canary Wharf, ex- the poster listed a series of talks

#### Reverend David Prior, starting on 4 February with: "Sweat and Pain". This was followed on February 11 with "Rage and Obviously the vicar has City

traders in mind. Four further talks were listed before we came to 18 March: "Confusion in the marketplace". Finally on 25 March the Rev-

erend Prior is set to reach the inescapable conclusion: "The time to get out".

#### **Enthusiasts**

A FIRM of City recruitment consultants has spotted a trend among candidates to spurn traditional "hobbies" when filling out their CVs.

According to Gillow Purdie Associates, sports, reading, theatre and the like have been replaced by "Shiatsu massage, Feng Shui, ballet, mentoring and photography". And that's Tapner Let's hope for a better just the men.

given by the resident vicar, the racing, football, fencing and skiing." Alison Gillow, director of the firm, is not sure whether such role reversal is due to women breaking the "glass ceiling" or to "hormones in the

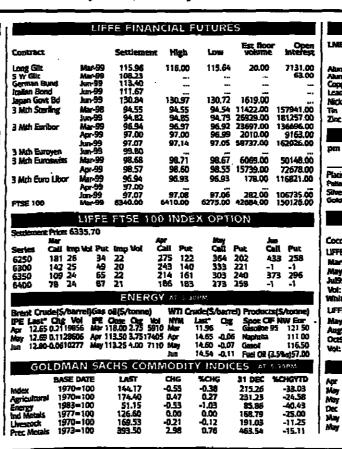
## Après-ski

EDDIE THE EAGLE, the erstwhile ski-jumper, gave the after-dinner speech for the City Ski Run last night in the Vintners hall. In two weeks time hordes of City types will descend on Courchevel in France for the annual ski run to raise money

for disabled charities. I hear that last year Rory Tapner, head of corporate finance at Warburg Dillon Read, got somewhat carried away during an after-dinner game.Photos of the larks were subsequently auctioned for £500, but disap pointingly found to feature nothing that would embarrass Mr performance this year

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# **SPORT**

Boxing: Lewis's heavyweight championship rival puts faith in his Lord to fulfil prediction of a quick victory tomorrow

# Holyfield emboldened by high spirits



RICHARD Williams IN NEW YORK

HE CUTS a quietly impressive figure at the lectern, addressing a congregation of media folk. His dress is austere, his manner direct. His speech is sometimes halting, but the hesitations are caused by a search for meaning. In his Southern back porch way, Evander Holyfield talks not just a good fight but a pretty good career.

Some back porch, too. That career has landed him, his wife and their four children with an Atlanta mansion worth \$15m (£9.5m), probably the most lavish home in all of sporting history. And the chances are that Holyfield, unlike so many of his predecessors and rivals, will hang on to the spoils of the ring. For this is a man to whom the virtues of humility and frugality are not unknown,

who deals not in hype but in realism. And Holyfield was not afraid to talk this week, ahead of his reunification match with Lennox Lewis tomorrow night in New York, about the stuff that hurts. Whose punch, he was asked, had hit him the hardest?

"It's hard to say," he replied, "because I've been hit a lot of times, and all of 'em hurt. But I got over it."

Getting over it sometimes took every scrap of willpower. "Problems are part of life," said the man born the youngest of eight children raised by a single mother in Alabama. "The one who finds the solution is the one who gets through.

He talked about the lowest point of his career, and how it all turned around. Not surprisingly, the story concerned the first of his two turnultuous fights with Mike Tyson in 1996, the heroic victory achieved by a stoppage in the 11th round, through which he regained the

"At the time I fought Tyson I was at my lowest," he said. "I didn't know if I still had it." The decline had started the previous year, when he lost for the second time to Riddick Bowe. "I had already told people I was going to carry the Olympic torch as the heavyweight champion of the world in 1996 and then I got in with Riddick Bowe and lost. That fight made me feel that I'd been derailed."

Six months later be found himself in the ring with a much lesser fighter. Bobby Czyz. "I went in there trying to blow him out and I didn't do it. I got the victory but I thought, who can I beat? I wondered if I can't get through Bobby Czyz, what can I do? I felt real bad. Real discouraged. That was my lowest point. I was getting beaten up in sparring. And I was asking the Lord, When is the skill going to come back to me? You supposed to rejuvenate me!" Then He made me start praying. Praying and praising. The Lord told me, victory is mine. A couple of weeks before the Tyson fight, it all came back. Through my prayer and my praise, the Lord had uplifted me. That was it. I would never lose

The combination of Holyfield's



Evander Holyfield has his hands taped by Don Turner at the Church Street gym as he prepares to face Lennox Lewis at Madison Square Garden in pursuit of the unified world title

marriage form the evidence that persuaded Lennox Lewis, searching for a weakness, to call him a hypocrite. Lewis was on surer ground when he performance, a points win over Vaughn Bean in Atlanta last September, as very ordinary.

"Things like that don't matter because they don't make me no less," Holyfield said this week. "I'm not inspired by what people say. I'm inspired by what I do. That's his opinion. If I was ordinary to him in that fight, that's fine. That don't have nothing to do with this fight. I'm glad that each and every time I come into the ring I have the opportunity to do better and the opportunity to redeem myself once again."

Holyfield's uncharacteristic assertion that he will knock Lewis out in the third round has been disparaged by those who have examined his record since he reached the top and have found little to support his claim, particularly in his three fights between 1992 and 1995 against Riddick Bowe, the fighter who in size and style most resembles Lewis. After the two men had won one fight apiece over the full distance, Bowe decided the series with an eighthround stoppage.

"What does the past have to do with today? It's a different time and a different place," Holyfield said. "Riddick Bowe was able to do someconstant willingness to share credit thing I wasn't able to figure out. for his fortune with his Lord and the that's all. And I don't say that I'm still allegations that he has fathered up that same fighter that fought Riddick

to half a dozen children outside his Bowe. If I were still fighting with the styles could hardly be more marked: same skills I had in 1992 or 1994 or 1995, I wouldn't stand a chance. Lennox would whup that guy. So I'm not going to let you hold me to my

> lustre post-Tyson displays, Holyfield insists that, at 36, his development is continuing. "The only thing I see in myself is improvement," he said. "The majority of fighters decline when they're 30. As you can see, I'm rapidly growing. The difference is that I've learnt from my mistakes. I've been fighting an uphili battle all my life and I always overcome things."

The contrast in physique and

the former cruiserweight with the six-pack stomach against a former Olympic super-heavyweight cham-"I don't watch tapes that much," Holyfield said, "but I've seen Despite the evidence of his lack- Lennox fight a few times and in general I know his style. My concentration is on what I have to do to win. He's a target. He's a big target. And when a person's a big target, what is there to do but hit him?"

The famous third-round prediction continues to cause surprise among those who associate Holyfield with a more cautious attitude. "Nothing's changed," he said, "except that I'm a lot more confident but the fact that I know what I'm cathan I've ever been. That's the pable of doing.

only difference. It happened when I was doing an interview on the telephone and my spirit just said, 'Go ahead, tell them you're going to knock him out in three rounds.' It people are really trying to win, jumped out. It don't have anything to do with Lennox. It has to do with this place and this time. I've been doing this thing over and over since I was eight years old, so I should have the confidence to say what I'm going to do. I have my ups and I have my downs, but I've always been able to overcome. Here's a

point in time that I'm in my high spirits, and I know that I can do this not because of what Lennox can do

"Lennox Lewis is good. I'm not I'm going to use it against him. If he talking him down. You have the best of the best in this fight. Because you have the best of the best, and two somebody's going to get knocked out because that's the only way you can hit somebody, when they're trying to hit you. So I'm going to hit him first and get him on out of there in the

third round." motivation of an opponent facing a fight that will define his entire career? "I'm not concerned with what Lennox needs to prove. I'm not concerned with what he may do, because anything Lennox does, Pm going to use it against him. If he moves well,

don't move well, I'm going to use that against him. But my whole thing of doing what I'm doing is not based on Lennox Lewis at all. "I'm at my very best and that's

why I'm going to knock him out in the third round. I'm not telling nobody to believe me right today, but you're going to believe me now or later, one of the two, It don't bother me. And Was he concerned about the in a way you're right. One should be smart enough to say, Why should I believe that?' Then later you can say,

'Shoot, he was right.'"
But what if... "Ain't no 'What if'. Ain't no Plan B. Plan A got to work. Ain't but one way. Lennox is the toughest guy out there, but he's still going in three rounds."

And would that, and the reunification of the three major world heavyweight titles, which he held from 25 October 1990 to 13 November 1992, finally allow Evander Holyfield to call himself one of the greatest boxers of all time?

"Tm one of them already," he said, "whether people know it or not. If you look at boxing, you'll see that all the greats built themselves on the foundation of the older fighters. I looked at Ali, I looked at Joe Frazier, I looked at the Brown Bomber, I looked at all those guys. They are the foundation. So the only thing I can say is, I am the very best

"And after that, people can say what they want to say. But I was the best in this era, just like those guys were the best of theirs."



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Paul Carberry is hoping to emulate one of his father's achievements by riding the winner in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham next week. The jockey of Dorans Pride talks to Richard Edmondson

## Rogers happy to put wind up Willows

IT IS part of Sod's Law of sport that you forever cross paths with past clubs in significant matches in the future. It happens tomorrow to Darren Rogers, albeit rather more rapidly than is usual.

At the end of last season, Rogers was a Salford player. This weekend. member of a Castleford team trying to knock them out of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup,

Rogers was part of the Salford side narrowly and controversially beaten by Sheffield Eagles in last season's semi-final.

just losing that match knocked the stuffing out of us. We had a hard run in Super League after that and although we played quite well, we couldn't get a win. Our season never quite recovered," he says.

The lanky winger now wants to inflict more misery on his previous to be closer to my family and team, but not because of any per- friends.

in rugby league's Challenge Cup tomorrow. By Dave Hadfield "I didn't leave Salford on bad ested in talking to me, but when I through this time - and the often

terms. I'm still in touch with lads like Steve Blakeley and Gary Broadbent. "In fact, I hope they only lose he faces his old team-mates as a three games all season - all to us and starting with the cup-tie."

Rogers spent four seasons at The Willows after signing from his first professional club, Dewsbury, At 24, he felt the time was right to make a move, but returning to his native Yorkshire - he comes originally "We were so close to the final that from Wakefield - was a major factor in determining his destination.

"I'd been living in Salford in a flat and it was a bit of a case of everybody going off in their separate directions after training - the Pieeaters off to Wigan and so on. I'd reached the stage where I wanted

"There were a few clubs inter-

spoke to the Castleford coach, Stu-underrated skills of Rogers on the art Raper, I liked everything he had to say - especially about the players he was going to bring in and what he was trying to build here.

"There are only a handful of teams outside the big four who can make a serious bid for a top-five spot in Super League and Castleford are one of them." Already, he has noticed the dif-

ference at Wheldon Road. "The supporters at Salford were great, but it's been a long time since they had any real success. "The fans at Castleford expect more, because it's not long ago that

this club was always known as 'Classy Cas'," he says. After a season of steady there are few players who have prof-

porters will be looking for a break-

wing can make a major contribution. He is an unlikely looking rugby league player, gangling and lean although not as lean as he once was

in his studious glasses, but Rogers' Salford years saw him mature into a potential match-winner. "I had a bit of a sticky period there playing full-back. The attacking part of the role was okay, but

I never really felt at home with the defensive side of the job and I regard myself as a winger now." He brings a couple of major assets to that position. With his long, loping stride, he is considerably faster than he looks, both going for the line and chasing in defence, and

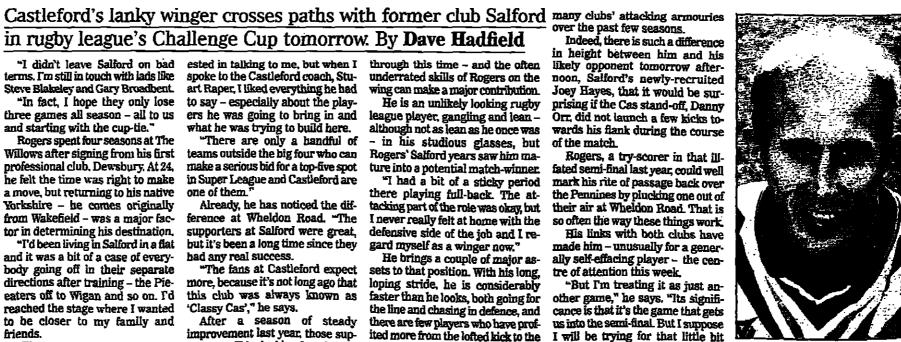
over the past few seasons. Indeed, there is such a difference

in height between him and his likely opponent tomorrow afternoon, Salford's newly-recruited Joey Hayes, that it would be surprising if the Cas stand-off, Danny Orr, did not launch a few kicks towards his flank during the course of the match.

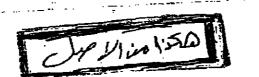
Rogers, a try-scorer in that illfated semi-final last year, could well mark his rite of passage back over the Pennines by plucking one out of their air at Wheldon Road That is so often the way these things work. His links with both clubs have

made him - unusually for a generally self-effacing player - the centre of attention this week.

"But I'm treating it as just another game," he says. "Its significance is that it's the game that gets us into the semi-final. But I suppose improvement last year, those sup- ited more from the lofted kick to the I will be trying for that little bit wing that has become a part of extra."



Rogers: 'Fans expect success'



All Harry

PEPORTS in association

off piste, with World C

# Sethi settles for local heroism

victory tomorrow

THE INDEPENDENT

Billiards graced the green baize PITS week but few wanted to watch

the British Open. By Guy Hodgson

YOU DID not need to know that billiards is the poor relation of snooker, the venue told you. A converted Victorian terrace guarded by a large, loud and lethal-looking Alsatian was pleasant enough but no one would put it on a par with The Crucible. Come to think about it, the practice area in Sheffield is bigger never mind the arena

The crowd, if you could call it that, told a similar tale. Forty souls had wandered in off Liverpool's busy Derby Lane to witch Chris Shutt beat Rex waliams 1319-210 in the semifinals whereas 20 times as many at least would have been attracted if the Strachan British Open swapped the name billiards for snooker. Not to mention the couple of million glued to the green baize on the television.

Pay-per-view did not come into what was on show at the Liverpool Billiards and Snooker Club because apart from a local Merseyside cable station which turned up for a news report yesterday, television was not interested. Even the spectators were allowed in free. The sport has not died but you do have to shake it ever so often to make sure it has mere-

is lozed off.
Vin the 1930s Walter Lindrum, the greatest billiards player ever, was as famous as Don Bradman in his native Australia and banner headlines would celebrate his every move. "Lindrum meets the Queen" was one which was useful because some were too bedazzled by his presence to be sure of the identity of the woman he was pictured with. If the current world champion, Geet Sethi, met the monarch she would assume he was an Indian diplomat while the great British public would be wholly of the unitied world title 🚁 non-plussed.

Transfer of the Lindrum - We're not fit to sit a said Sethi, who lost in the Partie that the wholes Ferreira, a four times would this plant is also the architect of the what billiards players get to and billiards more in this countries the second best ever under 36 balls. Works of art require game's decline, simply because what footballers or golfers earn. try than the fact that he and current rules. At 21 he repre-

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Chris Shutt, who beat the world champion Geet Sethi in the British Open this week, represents the future of a sport struggling to find an audience

played surpassed Joe Davis, never mind what Joe Public could aspire to, and the world largely turned its back on a sport to which they found hard

Hence the £200,000-plus first prize the snooker world champion will pick up in Sheffield in May compared with the £10,000 Sethi collected in Ahmedabad last September and the £6,500 at stake for the winner in Liverocol last night. Considering that billiards is the senior partner, something has gone drastically wrong somewhere.

on-plussed.

"It's the way things are, so
It is the supreme irony that there's no point fretting about sports are similar yet totally dif-

money in the game but I don't think it has been marketed that well in this country."

Sethi is from a nation where the indifference displayed towards a billiards tournament this week would not be comprehensible. Television audi-

nings by slipping in and out of as the 65-year-old Williams, the The Crucible in April and May to report on snooker's world pionship for the Hindu and the Times of India, respectively. Funnily enough, John Higgins and Stephen Hendry were not in Liverpool

world champion for 14 years in the 1960s and '70s and the last player to play both cue sports at the highest level, is a throwback to billiards' great days.

To put that 827 break in perspective Shutt, from Stockton-

'Snooker and billiards are similar yet totally different so it is like comparing what billiards players get to what footballers earn. We'd like more money in the game but I don't think it has been marketed that well in this country'

ences are around 100 million for he is a household name and a Weekly. frequent target for autograph

tournaments in India where for the Times and Christian compile it and potted more

Indeed, nothing illustrates three days ago set the tourna-

yesterday knocking out reports on-Tees, required 53 minutes to than 300 balls. A snooker max-If they had been they would imum 147 took Ronnie O'Sullicompile at The Crucible two

being created rarely is. Which is billiards' problem.

It is a more skilled sport than its rich, flash kid brother but not as watchable and although that ought to suggest billiards players could fit in a quick frame of snooker whenever they need a quick pound or two, the high levels of competition means the opposite is true. Sethi, 37, is in the Guinness Book of Records as the first amateur to make a 147 in competition, yet he estimates he would have been a top 64 player at best if he had stuck with the more lucrative game.

"The pressure element es a conterence." said Setti. pinpointing the reason why. lines if he had done it in the 22 time in snooker whereas in bilpatience as well as skill but liards in a four-hour game, for most un-noticed. Still the Althe was so good. The billiards he Of course we'd like more Ferreira supplement their winsents the future of the sport just while the finished product the first three hours you play satian seemed impressed.

might be inspiring, watching it free and easy because you

always have time. "The cue action required is different, too. In snooker you hit the ball hard, in billiards there is more delicacy, spin and side to manoeuvre the balls to continue the break. The knowledge required to play billiards at the highest level is greater."

Yesterday it was youth rather than wisdom that prevailed as Shutt built an early advantage with a break of 350 on his seventh visit and then was uncatchable. A win by 1,100 points is a massacre and given Williams' stature as chairman of the governing body for snocker and billiards, the WPBSA aranteed hood "You are facing pressure all the rather than the three-ball game.

Instead the feat went al-

## League stands firm on venue

RUGBY LEAGUE

By Dave Hadfield

THE LEAGUE is committed to staging the 2000 Silk Cut Challenge Cup final at Murrayfield despite the news that demolition at Wembley will not begin until August next year. The London stadium was expected to be out of commission by next May, so a decision was made to play the final in Edinburgh. after Twickenham and Cardiff had also been considered.

"We have been in frequent contact with the Wembley authorities and they could give us no guarantee that the stadium would be available," said the RFL's deputy chief executive, Dave Callaghan. "We have committed ourselves to Murrayfield and that is where we will be playing the final in 2000."

It now seems that the code's biggest occasion could be a moveable feast for four seasons. 'We were hoping to be back at Wembley for 2003, but it could be 2004," said Callaghan, No. decision on venues for the final after Murrayfield have yet been

Referees are to be given powers to send-off interlopers from the sidelines. Watercarriers, whose encroachments have been one of the irritants of the modern game, are to be limited to two per team and any interference with the action on the field is to be punished by a warning. followed by dismissal.

Offenders are unlikely to be shown the familiar red and yellow cards, however. They are in line to be scrapped following discussions with coaches and

The referees' controller, Greg McCallum, favours a return to the old system of simply pointing a player to-wards the dressing-room, holding up the fingers of both hands if he is being sin-binned rather than permanently expelled.

The National Conference League club Ovenden have been expelled for playing a professional under an assumed name. The club, next to last in the Second Division of the competition, have been found guilty of fielding Lee Midgley, a contracted player at Halifax, but said that they were shocked at the severity of their punish-

Midgley, whose father Robert is the Ovenden chairman, was found to have played under the assumed name of David Graham, who is a former Ovenden player, 12 times but was recognised by opposition teams. The Ovenden secretary, Tony McElroy, said: "We expected something other than expulsion. We are devastated. Along with the fines, this could mean the demise of

the club." Terry Parie, who is chairman of both the National Conference League and the British Amateur Rugby League Association, said: "Ovenden officials freely admitted they had blatantly flaunted the rules of the League and, in fact, had cheated. We had no option but to boot them out of the League

with immediate effect." Halifax, meanwhile, have suffered another setback, with their two most experienced forwards out of action for at least a month. Gary Mercer has a neck injury and Kelvin Skerrett has broken a thumb. Their absences will not help the surprise side of last season to overcome what has so far

been a slow start to this cam-Olympics, victory tomorrow on points and striving for the London Broncos have will be high on their priorities. second automatic promotion signed the former Canberra Raiders prop Anthony Seibold. The 23 year old arrived too late

to be registered for Sunday's Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarterfinal against Whitehaven Warriors but will be in line for a place against Sheffield Eagles in the Super League fixture on

year contract and will fill the gap left by the return to Australia of Marty McKenzie.

## Williams' Shanghai anger

Become that they bridge MARK WILLIAMS branded conditions in the China International tournament "a disgrace yesterday. Williams, winner of the Thailand Master. the Thailand Masters four days

earlier, was scathing about the Best and the state of the state table and the room used for the

tournament at the JC Mandesin Hotel in Shanghai.

Forced to play in a small outside arena due to local Chinese television electing to broadcast the Alan McManus v Mark King match, Williams made his feelings plain. The table and the room were a disgrace for professional snooker," he moaned. "I can't wait to get out

it was the same at the Scot-tish Open in Aberdeen. The out-side table set-m side table set-up was terrible ment so far. there as well and something

## SNOOKER

needs to be done. It doesn't to snooker" after his hopes of make you want to play. Mind an Asian double were ended by you, Paul played really well fellow Welshman Paul Davies and towards the end he ham-

> Williams moved smoothly into a 2-0 lead with breaks of 53 and 48 and looked capable of repeating his 5-0 first-round whitewash of Dommic Dale. The turning point arrived in the third frame. Having opened the scoring with a 58 break, Williams missed a black off its spot and Davies produced a 67 clearance to steal it. The world No 41 then made breaks of 68, 50, 51 and 42 to dominate the next four frames and record the biggest surprise of the tourna-

"The clearance in the third

gave me the boost I needed and my form kicked in." Davies said. "I knew this kind of victory was coming because I have been playing so well in practice. It was just a matter of when."

Stephen Hendry returned to his best during a 5-2 quarterfinal victory over John Parrott. "That's probably my best performance of the season," declared the six-times world champion, who only squeezed past Steve Davis 5-4 on the black in the previous round. "When you scrape through a match you should by rights have lost it always tends to relax you and that's how I felt out there," added Hendry.

His level of relaxation and focus was apparent from the outset as he prevented Parrott potting a single ball in the opening two frames. The experienced Liverpudlian took

opened the scoring with 51 in the fourth before Hendry rolled in a long red to launch the 87 clearance which gave him a 3-1

Parrott won a scrappy fifth frame but did not take another point as Hendry impressively whipped through the next two frames in only 18 minutes with breaks of 107, 46 and 30.

"It was very encouraging hecause I can't remember missing an important pot from distance apart from one when a TV cameraman put me off by moving. I just hope I can keep this momentum going," added Hendry.

Next up for Hendry, who is bidding to capture his fourth title of the season, will be Billy Snaddon, his practice partner at Spencers Snooker Centre in Stirling for the past eight years.

## Mayer takes revenge

CHRISTIAN MAYER led an Austrian clean sweep in the final men's super-G of the season in Sierra Nevada. Spain, yesterday to effectively end Hermann Majer's chance of retaining his overall World Cup title. Mayer won in 1min 28.71sec from Andreas Schifferer, in 1:29.06, and Josef Strool, in 1:29.53.

Maier, the world, Olympic and World Cup champion, finished a disappointing seventh, and his team-mates did him no favours in the battle for the overall crown. He now trails the Norwegian leader, Lasse Kius, by 102 points with just two races left. Kjus, who shared the super-G title with Maier at last month's World Championships,

If Maier decides not to compete in the slalom, which he does not normally race, then the overall title has been handed over to the Norwegians Kins

has 1.409 points, with competriot Kjetil Andre Aamodt second overall on 1.317. Maier has 1.307. Aamodt finished 16th yesterday which would normally have given him 15 points, but under the rules operating at the World Cup finals only the top 15 TACETS SCOTE.

Maier was fifth out of the starting hut and crossed the line more than half a second faster than the previous quickest and a second in front of Aamodt, but it proved a false dawn for the Austrian as Schifferer, Mayer and then Strobl all pushed him further and further down the

Mayer said: "This is my revenge on the coaches taking me out of the super-G team for Vail. In the morning when I saw

At the bottom, Doncaster,

two points adrift of Sutton Cold-

field, have crucial games away

going to be a good course for

Strobl, asked whether he and his team-mates had tried to assist Maier, rejected such a suggestion. "No, not at all," he said. "Everyone has to look after himself." Majer was critical of the con-

ditions, "Normally in such a race I should have been the winner," said the skier who has won four out of six super-Gs this season. "The wind was very important... there was also too much soft snow for my liking. My one goal left is to win the giant slalom, but the way things have been going in the last few days

even that is doubtful." Aamodt said he had slipped at the top and, despite making up speed, the error ruined his

place behind Canterbury. How-

ever, fourth-placed Bradford

could, with wins against Can-

Results, Digest, page 31

### SNOW REPORTS in association with WorldCover Direct

SKI HOTLINE

•	AUSTRIA	and the serie is				
First, obtain the access code for	Auftach 100%	Gt at altitude 60	260	11.3	0C	Overcast
the resort of your choice. Phone or Fax 0870 51 00 843	Niederau 100% BULGARIA	Gt at altitude 60	260	11.3	2C	Cloudy
(the fax lists codes for 180 re- sorts)	Borovets: 100% CANADA	Good conditions 35	110	8.3	-1C	Sunny
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and weather report:	Alagna60%	Good skiing : 40	130	7.3	-4ζ	Changeable
Pax 0906 55 00 086 + code	PED100% SCOTLAND	Good skiling 90	120	7.3	-4C	Mid
SKI HOTLINE SNAPSHOT	Cairngorm90% SWITZERLAND	Plenky of snow cover35	6S <sup>-</sup>	11.3	2C	Cold
A detailed four-page summary of conditions in 180 resorts	Leysin190% UNITED STATES	Snow lower down 140	280	5.3	-4C	Changeable
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Calls to 0901 cost 60p per min, 0906	cost £1 per min. 087	O calls are standard nation	al rate.	_		

On or off piste, with WorldCover you're covered.

## Shaw and Thompson in opposition

SLOUGH AND Ipswich collide for tomorrow what is certain to be the first of two encounters in the next few weeks and could well be three in the final round of women's National League games. With Slough topping the Premier League on goal difference, they will also meet in the League play-offs at Reading on 17 or 18 April and perhaps again at Milton Keynes on

3 May, with Europe the bait for the winner. Neither team will be at full strength, however. Lucy Youngs and Jane Cook will be missing from the Ipswich lineup and Michelle Hall and the Dutch winger, Monique Slootmaekers, from the Slough

The interest will be how the two coaches decide to play this first leg. Ipswich's Nicky Thompson may be looking to restore confidence and redeem the defeats in recent weeks by bottom-placed Doncaster and last week at Hightown. John Shaw, still smarting

squad.

BY BILL COLWILL

from Slough's defeat at lpswich earlier in the season on a partly frozen pitch, will want to put the record straight. "I don't think I will opt for a are against Hightown tomorrow

cat and mouse game," Shaw and at home to Slough, yet to pattern right with Europe at Easter and then the play-offs in

said. "My aim will be to get our be arranged. The key game in the First Division is second-placed

Cheimsford Highway's match For these two Great Britain away to third-placed Aldridge. team-mates in the Atlanta Both clubs are currently equal

to Fyffes Leicester and at home terbury tomorrow and Loughto Oiton Terraquest on Sunday, borough Students on Sunday, while Sutton's last two games claim their place in the enlarged Premier next season. Kuala Lumour will host the next men's World Cup in 2002, | with the women's event going to Perth, Western Australia. The 2002 men's and women's Champions Trophy will be held in Belgium.

20 March. Seibold has signed a two-

## WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE,

Draw date: 10/03/99, The winning numbers: 8, 18, 27, 32, 36, 49. Bonus number: 46. Total Sales: £28,790,191. Prize Fund: £12,955,585 (45% of ticket sales).

CATEGORY	NO. OF WINNERS	AMOUNT FOR EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TIER
Match 6 (Jackpot)	4	£1.038,923	£4.155,692
Metch 5 plus bonus ball	5	£255,734	£1,278,670
Match 5	473	£1,689	£798,897
Match 4	28,340	£62	£1,757,080
Match 3	496,387	£10	£4,963,870
TOTALS	\$25,209	j <del>-</del> -	£12,954,209

# Riders still face Jockey Club scrutiny

WHEN RAY COCHRANE and BY GREG WOOD Dean Gallagher walked out of Charing Cross police station on Wednesday they were flashing the smiles of men with nothing more to worry about While they have now been ruled out of the criminal investigation into possible race-fixing, however their problems may not yet be fully behind them. The Jockey Club confirmed yesterday that it may yet take action against the two jockeys, although there is little indication of what that action might be, or when it might be taken.

The Club does not have the powers of arrest and seizure of evidence which the police could employ during their investigation, which resulted in five men being charged on Wednesday in connection with the doping of two borses in March 1997. However, the Jockey Club has the authority to impose significant penalties on individuals as it sees fit, up to and including the withdrawal of a jockey's li-

"We will be reviewing all the information available before deciding what regulatory action on our part is appropriate," John Maxse, the Club's spokesman, said yesterday, "I can't put a date on the decision, there are a few hurdles to cross yet, and it is a matter of what, how and

The "when" will almost certainly be after the trial of the five men who were charged with conspiracy to defraud by "interfering with the fair running of horseracing by administering a performance-inhibiting drug". They are due to make their first appearance in court in front of Bow Street magistrates on 14 April, a day after Graham Bradley, the only jockey who has not been ruled out of the inquiry, reports to Charing Cross to answer his bail. It may be many months, however, before the outcome of the

tion than the immediate suspension or removal of a riders' licence would be a "quiet word" under the Warnings Protocol, which was introduced in 1996. Under the Protocol, licensed individuals who are believed to be associating with known criminals or others deemed to be "undesirables" receive a private warning as to their future conduct. If that caution is ignored, they may then be required to attend the Licensing Committee, which decides whether trainers and jockeys are "fit and proper" people to

hold a licence. "The Jockey Club have been saying that they might take action for some time," Michael Caulfield, the secretary of the Jockeys' Association, said yesterday, "But that's for another day. Wednesday was the first stage out of the way, and it was a huge relief for the jockeys involved. We did fairly well and now there's just one more [Bradley] to go. Now we will have to see how things devel-

Speaking to the Racing Channel at Towcester yesterday, Dean Gallagher said that "it hasn't been easy and l wouldn't have wished it on anybody, but it's behind me now and hopefully I'll just be able to get on with my life. I'm lucky enough to be able to manage to get through it and now I'll just have to ride more winners".

Next month's criminal proceedings on charges related to doping will be almost without precedent. Horses have been doped or nobbled at infrequent but fairly regular intervals throughout racing history, but these cases have rarely resulted in charges being

One of the few exceptions occurred in 1811, when Daniel Dawson, a stable lad in Newmarket, was found guilty of fa-

horses in his care by pouring arsenic into their water trough. Dawson claimed that he had been paid by bookmakers who had laid substantial bets about the horses, but that he had intended only to incapacitate them. His pleas were ignored, however, and Dawson was later hanged on Newmarket Heath in front of 15,000 people. More recently, Pinturischio,

the ante-post favourite for the 1961 Derby, was got at twice in the weeks before the Classic. So toxic was the dope used by the nobblers that afterwards Pinturischio could hardly stand up. There are other cases, meanwhile, which remained highly suspicious rather than proven. Gorytus, the favourite for the 1983 Dewhurst Stakes, finished last of four, and is widely believed to have been "got at", even though his postrace sample showed no trace of dope. In neither instance, however, were any charges brought



two years, and Bellator (who

are the only other acceptors to

run in the race 12 months ago.

sentative of Venetia Williams,

who has withdrawn Happy

Change and Stretarez. Others

taken out were Juyush, Prince

last year's fourth. Pridwell.

Lord Gyllene has been ruled

out of the Grand National. The

1997 winner has suffered a

pelvic stress fracture and will

miss the rest of the season.

François Doumen has de-

ners to Cheltenham next week,

including his highly regarded

Newbury winner Quel Senor.

Bellator is the only repre-

Nick Dundee and his trainer, Eddie O'Grady, confer over riding plans for Norman Williamson at Cheltenham

## Trouble mills for Williamson

Norman Williamson's riding plans for the Cheltenham Gold Cup after the top Irish novice chaser Nick Dundee was announced a possible runner in chasing's blue riband event.

It had been assumed that the Irishman, who landed the Gold Cup on Master Oats in 1995, would partner Teeton Mill and ride Edward O'Grady's Nick Dundee in the Royal & SunAlliance Novices' Chase the pre-However, speculation that

Nick Dundee will instead take caused a dilemma for the lockey. With an announcement on Nick Dundee's chosen race expected at the weekend, Stephen tally poisoning three of the Mill's owners. The Winning if he doesn't ride. We won't be

Williamson had agreed to ride the Venetia Williams-trained grey, on whom he has won the Hennessy Gold Cup and King George VI Chase.

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Vilprano (Ayr 3.20) NB: Soi Music (Hereford 2.25)

"All I can tell you is that Venetia has assured us that Norman Williamson will ride the horse," his place in the Gold Cup has he said. "We will be disappointed if he doesn't and, quite frankly, amazed.

"I am not happy about the situation as it stands and we Winstanley, boss of Teeton have made contingency plans

12-length winner Istabraq, his CONFUSION PERSISTS as to Line, claimed yesterday that left without a top jockey for the race, that I can assure you." stable-companion Theatreworld, runner-up for the last

Williamson, regular partner of both horses, stressed he has not ruled out riding Nick unseated his rider at the last) Dundee, who runs in the colours of Sue Magnier, should the gelding run in the Gold Cup. "I am pretty sick of it all," he

said. "I met Mr Magnier yesterday and we spoke at length. I appreciate that people want me to make a decision but there is no point in me saying what I ride until a decision about Nick Dundee is made." Dato Star is a surprise with-

drawal for the Champion Hurdle, for which 17 entries were confirmed vesterday. The eightyear-old is "not moving properly" according to his trainer, Malcolm Jefferson.

Last year's record-equalling Wontcostate/but: Won at Newton Abbot (2m6t, soft) in December. Solid handcap form last two starts, both 3m1t on heavy, behind Bristale at Wetherby last time. The Newtonians Won novoce hundle at Forstwell (2m2t, good to firm) last March. No promise in handcaps last two starts this term. Another Night: In trame off 4b/5to higher marks this season at 2m to 2m4t. Showed little with much stiffer starning test on heavy ground latest outling. Militater Generosity: improved form last two starts, second at Burston (2m, soft) and winning tenumer race at Ludiow (2m2t, good to soft). Shorter trip is against him. Equity's Darfling: Unrelable mare, but winner at Lingfield (2m4t, heavy) and Foliestone (2m6t, soft) last two starts, having been reluctant to race time occasion and got well behind on second. 9b higher than for first of those wins.

VERDICT: A hard race to weigh up, with a number of these apparently better over longer trips (including Worstcostalotbut and Mister Generosity) and others out of form or temperamentally quirty, the most notable in the latter category being Equity's Dang, A return to form form Lord York would be no great surprise, but the best value may lie with IMAD, who has had only six races over the last two seasons but has near-

4.15 DUKE OF GLOUCESTER (PAST & PRESENT) HUNTER CHASE (H) £3,000 3m 110yds Penalty Value £2,042

FORM GUIDE Brases Of Mar; 6-4 tavourité, won this race 12 months ago (good to soft) and kept his form well afterwards. Lidey to be fit and reachy for this reappearance Sitver Stick: Won the Grand Military over C&D (good to soft) 12 months ago. A reproduction of that form would see him win this, and his reappearance second at Wether-

by last month was a promising enough performance Extra Stout: Poor rules form over hurdles. Faller in hunter chees last March but has won a point in Ireland this season

Statigue Fort: Fait form in further chases, 33-1 when well held in third behind Jigtime at Kelso (3m1( god to firm) lest May. Third in points this year, Cannot be ruled out Allischief Star: Novae hundler/chaser, modest at beat. Well-beaten lest of 4 finishers in handicap hurdle in August on last start under rules. Third in a point since

VERDICT: It is hard to assess Extre Stout's rish point form. Lest year's Grand Mil-tary worser SILVER STICK is the pick of the home contingent on form, but he does not have that much in hand of either Brase Of Mar or Stelgue Fort.

4.50 BUSHY PARK 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,905

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Chief Wardance: Progressive, remote second to Sameksan at Wetherby (2m, heavy) before winning 20-numer race at Newcastle (2m, good to soft) from Big Anol Estate Agent: Reliable sort, hunner-up in three novice hurdes before winning one at Windanton (2m, good to soft) by 1% lengths from Father Kriemas. The form pick Moorshine Bay: Third to Woodfield Gele at Wetherby (2m4) soft). Poor effort next time but justified its outties heads on soft in 7-numer race at Folkestone on lates: After Consistent in bumpers but has been very in and out over hurdes, chances here on her win at Estate (2m1), good) and third at Unasser (2m4) good in soft), every chance 3 out before going down by 8% lengths in fifth. Has plenty of potential Dragon Lotter Fathy testel bumper form for Lady Hernes. Placed in novice hurdes won by Copper Coin at Windsor and Royal Castle at Patenham, Has to improve Herbissheed: Seventh of 18 in bumper at Worcester (2m, good) for Graham McCourt. 25-1, ramote sock of 10 finishers in maidon hurde at folkestone (2m6) for Graham McCourt. 25-1, ramote sock of 10 finishers in maidon hurde at folkestone (2m6) heavy) Keystote: 50-1, 28% lengths sixth of 3 to snorestave Baccherial on hurding debut over C&D (good to soft) last morth. Will do better, but has an awful for to find folday Otage Heightis: Second in a bumper at Untower (2m, good to sim) and May 1997. First run since, pulled up (bit sipped) as 12-1 chance in 13-numer novice at Wincartion Razor Ruddoek: Farly useful form when three of 2s in bumper at Chetenham (2m, good to soft) and to soft) three weeks later. Rhino: 5yo by Teences 50-1, remote last of 3s in bumper at Newbury (2m, good) Roosbee: Placed at around 2m on a soft surface at Huntingdon, Hereford and Ludow, it buttopers on first two occasions. 7 lengths third of 3s in Newbury bumper (2m, good) for the first on the progress stronth on racecourse debut.

VERIDICT: Wincenton winner ESTATE AGENT has an obvious chance to register the double. Those with lesser form who are open to improvement include Chief Westence, Chevaller Errant and Oregon Lord, with the long-distance traveller Chevaler Strant (orog-raced over hurdles) very much one to note in the betting exchanges.

good) last manth on resecourse debut The Bitzz: No form in bumpers, at odds ranging from 33-1 to 100-1

ANTE-POST

Champion Hurdle French Holly 51 51 6-1 6-1 5-1 ady Crichet 20-1 16-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 Thembrewoods <u>16-1 14-1 20-1 14-1 18-1</u> Straing Wind 334 204 254 254 254 0ecoupage 25-125-125-125-125-1 Grey Shot 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 Rutcher 33-1 33-1 33-1 25-1 33-1 40-1 50-1 40-1 33-1 50-1 33-1 33-1 40-1 33-1 50-1

Of My Heart, Toto Toscato and Mikinight Laganti 25-1 80-1 25-1 33-1 90-1 33-1 50-1 50-1 50-1 33-1 33-1 66-1 33-1 40-1 50-1 Oster Morose 100-1 100-1 — 100-1 100-1 50 1 100 1 - 50 T 100 1 cided against sending any run-

Each way a fifth the odds, places 1, 2, 3 C Cost H Wim Hil, L Laderdes, S Startey, T Tale

2.20: (2m, maiden hurde)
1. TEQUILA \_\_\_\_\_N A Fitzperaid 4-6 fev
2. My Man Den \_\_\_\_\_\_ J Tizzerd 40-1
3. Goldo \_\_\_\_\_\_ N Williamson 16-1

4.50: (2m 6f, handicap hurdle) 1. NIGHT THYNE......Mr R Fornistal 13-2

Sandown 3.45 fisier Generosity 92 92 92 5-1 5-1 teoetalogius 92 5-1 11-2 5-1 5-1 61 112 112 61 <u>51</u> Supreme Genofin 5-1 5-1 9-2 6-1 6-1 Miechapel <u>11-2 11-2 **6-1 6-1** 5-1</u> iquity's Darling 9-1 8-1 8-1 7-1 8-1 erDanea 14-1 16-1 16-1 14-1 14-1 he Newstania 15-1 20-1 15-1 15-1 15-1 Each-way, a fain the odds, places 1, 2, 3 COral H Virm HR L Ladhroles S Starley T To

by Coral sheed of the Darby winner, High

DUBA! WOFLD CUP (27 March): 7-4 SE er Chem, 5-2 High Rise, 3-1 Victory Sellop, 6-1 Daylami, 14-1 Almaisseleil,

WINCANTON

To rain. 2"i., 5, 1/s. 1"i., 12. (winner bay cost by Myssiko out of Black Ivor, trained by N Henderson, at Lambourn, for Maj Gen Cuty Watidns & Sir William Purves). Tota: vm £180; places £1/0, £5/60, £3/20. DF: £3/440.

2. Oscar Wilde \_\_\_\_\_ A Thornton 19-2 3. Relixander \_\_\_\_ A P McCoy 9-1 Also: 10-1 Flying Fiddler (6th), 25-1 Pever-Albert N-1 rights reason (sout, sor) reten-it Pendragon (stin). 5 ran. 3, 11, 114, dist. (winner bey gelding by Accordion out of Amelias, trained by P Nicholas, Shepton Mellet, for Trading Thor-oughbreds Ltd). Tolke win 5140; places 510, 5180. DF: 52.20. CSF: 5409. NR: Montroe.

3.50: (2m, hendicap hurdle) 1. KINO'S CROSS......Mr R Forristel 11-2 

4.20; (3m 1f H0yds, hunters chase)
1. SiGP\*N\*Trate\_Mr M G Miller 10-11 fav
2. Comedy Gayle\_Mr I Widdicombe 9-4
3. Some-Toy\_\_\_\_Mr C Heard 9-2
Also: 9-1 Badger Beer (4th).
4 ram. 13, 3½, thd. (winner bey gelding by iddiss Delight out of Skipton Bridge, trained by R Miller, for M S Rose). Tota: win £170.
DF: £200.

Jackpot: £2,45450 Placepot: £2.20, Quadpot: £5.50, Place 6: £5,77, Place 5: £5.80,

RESULTS

CARLISLE

Going: Soft (Heavy in places) 2.00: 1. SIR BOB (C McCormack) evens far; 2. Who Dares Wins 5-1; 3. Pessimistic Dick 50-1, 9 ran. rik, dist, (W McKeown, Newcastle). Tota: 2200; £110, £140, £300. DF: £330. CSF; £881. 2.30: 1. JUNE'S RIVER (Mr A Demosev) 2oin is i

1 TV

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Li Internet ..

. Miles or

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2.7

25%

- -170

150

1 tav; 2. Fessan 4-1; 3. Jack Yests 12-1.7 ran. 7, 1%. (Mrs M Revaley, Seltburn). Toles: £260; £180, £200, DF: £360, CSF: £310, 3.00: 1. SAIL ON SID (R McGrath) 2-1; 2. Corporation Pop 8-11 tax; 3. Danie's Gien 20-1, 10 ran, 11/4, 16, (J O'Nell Pentitle 22-70; E180, E100, E390, DF: E150, CSF: E381, BAD (F. Niveri) 4-8 Rev.; 2-70; E180, E100, E390, DF: E150, CSF: E381, BAD (P. Niveri) 4-8 Rev.; 2-70; Tan. 11/4, 7. (Mrs M. Revelsy, Safburn), Tolar, E150; E100, E280, DF: E200, CSF: E258,

2150; E100; E280; DF: £200; CSF: £250; 4.00: 1. ALLERBECK (I. Cooper) 8-1; 2. Febrard February 7-2 fear; 3. Irish Wildcard 4-1; 7-ran-1, 10; (J Goulding, Coolearmouth) Tolar, 2:000; £340; £180; DF: £27/20; CSF: £3180; 4.30: 1. THE NEXT WALITZ (F Supple) 7-4 fear; 2. Massler Wood 4-1; 3. Silvera Staffeer 7-2 6 ran, 1/4, 10; (L Lungo, Cerutiterstown), Tolar, £220; £150; £220; DF: £620; CSF: £802; CSF: £802

Cor: 2002 5.00: 1. DENARIUS (Richard Guest) 4-1; 2. Hemish Mor. 100-30; 3. Fishlid's Lad 3-1 fez 9 ren. 15, 7. (W Heigh, Malton), Tote: 2560; 2220, \$160, \$130. DF: \$3420. CSF: £1821

TOWCESTER Going: Soft (Heavy patches)

2.10: 1. WELLSWOOD (M Maid) 10-1; 2. Tylo Segenter 7-2; 3. Corn Exchange 25-1.6 ras. 2; 13. (J Jefterson) Yote: 5250: 5330; 5210 DF: 52370. CSF: 52559. NF: Smokey Robot 2-49; 1. EVER BLESSED (R Durwood); 1-6 fay; 2. Coulin Loch 16-1; 3. Bredinthep-urple 50-1.5 ran. dist. 10. (Mrs. J Primer). Totas: 5120; 5200; 5230. DF: 5750. CSF: 5002 3.10: 1. BORA BORA (C Uswellyn) 11-5 fay; 2. Bessie Black; 22-1; 3. Rising Blatter 15-2. 8 ran. 3, 8. (N Twiston-Davies). Tota: £190; £10; £170; £270. DF: 5700. CSF: £1487. 3.40: 1. GET THE POINT (D GSR: 24487. ETIO, EL70, E270, DF: E700, CSF- E1487
3.40: 1. GET THE POINT (D Galeghar) 64 for; 2. Warm Spell 9-2; 3. Walding Tell
100-30, 5 ran. sh hd, 8, (8 Gollings), Rote:
E200; EVIX E150, DF: E530, CSF: 6870
4.10: 1. SCOTBY (8 Powell) 13-8: 2. Lantcastrian Jet 4-7 for; 3. Hely Sting 40-1. 4
5. cs. 12 (8 Budder), Rote: E280, DF: E1487
CSF: E252

CSF: C252
4.40: 1. AVOSTAR (htr B Polock) 7-4 lev.
2. Bally Rict 3-1; 3. Indian Crow 18-1.9 min.
8. 3%. (Mrs Caroline Balley). Tota: C300; EUß.
2.20, 12-70. DF: £3.20. CSF; £5.69.
5.10: 1. GOLDEN ROSE (C Murray) 10-1;
2. Chopine Revolution 8-2; 3. Good Job.
13-2. 10 min. 1; 3%. (T McGovern). Roles
76:500; E.200, E140; £2.60. DF: E1020. CSF;
55.18.

Placepot: £16.20. Quadpot: £780. Place 6: £39.87. Place 5: £793.

■ At Carlisle yesterday, The Next Waltz scored his ninth win of the season. He has never been out of the first four in 15 starts this campaign.

\*THE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES** LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULT SANDOWN 971 981 HEREFORD 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

## **SANDOWN**

**HYPERION** 

2.00 Knight's Crest 2.35 Native King

3.45 Lord York (nb) 4.15 Braes Of Mar 3.10 Symbol Of Success 4.50 CHEVALIER ERRANT (nap)

GOING: Chases: Good, Good to Soft in places. Hurdles: Good to Soft, Soft in places. ## Right-hand course; seven testing fences along back straight; run-in of 300yds.

### Course is on A307, 4m S of Kingston. Esher station (service from London, Water-loo) adjoins course. ADMISSION; Club \$16, Junior Club (17 - 21yrs) \$12; Grandstand & Paddock \$10; Park enclosure \$5. CAR PARKS Free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

II LEADING TRAINERS: D Nicholson 21 was from 103 runners (20.4%), J Old 19-56
(33.9%). N Henderson 16-105 (15.2%), P Hobbs 13-52 (25%).

II LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody 31 was from 129 ades (24%), A P McCoy 20105 (18.9%), J Osborne 17-89 (181%), A Maguire 17-92 (185%).

II EAVOIDITES: 175 was from 25 more (accessed to 34.9%). FAVOURITES: 125 wms from 361 races (success rate 34.6%).

SLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER; Cheveller Errant (450) has been sent 373 miles.

2	.00	WORCESTER PARK NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (D) £6,000 added 3m 110yds Penaity Value £4,299
		KNRGHT'S CREST (26) (D) (BF) (G Hursby) P Dickon 9 11 12
:		LEAD VOCALIST (22) (C) (Capt A Pratt) FI Rose to ti 2
3		GARRISON FRIENDLY (11) (D) (BF) (C Harbury) N Henderson 6 11 1 M A Reported
4	P64 C	COUNTRY STORE (22) (D) (BF) (Westlets Racing) M Pice 10 10 6 R Johnson
5	. G-6P	PROCEED (71) IG T Radmorel J Geloxt 7 QQ P Hide
ē		MR PERKURP (16) (D) (Nos M Keegan) Lord Tyrone 8 to 0
•	CLAS	VIA DEL CLIATRO (135) (D) (I MoGready R McGready A Day) J Mulins 7 to 0. A Balan (3)
£		HIGH THYNE (9) (D) (The Net Partnersho) P Hoobs 8 10 0 R Wildger (5) B
9		CLAYMORE LAD (22) (Marborough Racing Partnership) J King 9 to 0 W Maraton
10	4	RAMELING SAM (20) (DI (C J Jones) G Batono 7 10 0 8 Colford
		- 10 declared
V :		pt 10ct True handicap weights: Air Perlupp Sct 13th, Va Del Quaen & High Thyne Sci
		Lad 9ct 100: Rembling Som 9st 9tb.

N.C. Cognitive Use Title, American State 1922 BETTING: 5-2 Country Store, 3-1 Kinghi's Chet, 7-2 Lead Vocalist. Garrison Friendly, 16-1 Pro-cred, Via Dal Guatro, 25-1 High Thyms, 33-1 others "282 Mountain Path 8 12 0 M A Fözgerald 3-1 (N Handerson) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Knight's Crest: Won Hundicap at Ludlow (Dr., good) and novice event at Warwick (Dr.2) good to soft late last year. May have needed race when pulled up last time Lead Vocalist: 11 lengths second to Looks Like Trouble at Doncaster (Dr., good to soft, review) but began 20% lengths further behind same real here next time. Garnson Friendly; Won 17-runner novice handscap at Windsor (Dr., good to soft). One Germann Priendly: Won 17-runner nonce handcap at Windsor (3m. good to soft). One poor run serce and one good, before unidone by jumping arrors latest start. Country Same: Short-head winner at Tauritin (3m. soft; 3th higher head and not discredited back over hundes there is days later, her only two runs for Martin Pipe Proceed: Well treated on hundles form but has shown very little over ferices this term Mir Perfuspe: Winning pointer in heland last year. Has hinted at a title ability in nowlock chases here this season, but has not yet looked on accomplished jumper. Via Del Quatro: First win under rules in poor 5-runner handcap at Fortiwel (3m2), good) in October. Several most uninspiring efforts as well, and off for over 4 months High Thyne: Has accomplished little under rules, probably best effort when well-beatern bird of 8 in nowne chase at Hereford (3m11, good). Has raced on soft since Claywore Led; 33-1 hinted at a return to form here (3m, good) 3 weeks ago, malong most but fuling 2 out, 4th out of handleap and overall has plently to prove Rambling Sem; 17/ lengths second of 4 to Executive King at Newbury (3m, good) in November. Failed to complete next 4 starts. Last of 4 when no change on latest. November Failed to complete next 4 starts. Last ol 4 when no chance on last VERDICT: few of these rispire any confidence; most have not yet mastered the art of jumping. Knight's Creek, Leed Vocalitet and Gernteon Priendly at have disappointing last time-out efforts to forgive but would otherwise head the short-lest. COUNTRY STORE, however, has done nothing wrong ence joining Martin Pipe and it is always possible that the champion trainer can conjure up some improvement out of her.

FACAL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £6,000 added

	2.35	2m 6f Penalty Value £4,416
		NATIVE KING (26) (C) (Doubleprint) J Old 7 Ti 5 M A Fitzgerald
		RUSSELL ROAD (34) (Mrs I, Field) D Nicholson 7 11 5
		CHICAGO CITY (102) (S N J Embricos) J Giflard B 11 0 R Dumeoco)
	÷ 50	COLD CLASS (50) (Tomorrous Easy Parinershap) D Gressel 6 11 0 J Goldstale (4)
	5 525	HIGH GAME (21) (C F Scottontant) G L Moore 5 TI O
	6 4	KINGS VEAN (14) (Mrs Dawrs Wheeman) J King 7 tf 0
	<del>.</del> )	LIGHT REFLECTIONS (23) (Mess J Collegn) P Murphy 6 11 0
1	R 745	LONE STAR (91) (Lipkards Boodstock) S Sherwood 7 ti C G Bradley
	3 P	MOONDARGA (NZ) (76) (Sir Enc Parker) Mrs A Perrett 6 11 0
	ກ 40-1 <b>P</b> 0	CURCKSWOOD (5) (Harvey Spack) C Barwel 6 11 C Transmission of Transmi
		MY GLENDALOUGH (106) (Mrs Mary Doyle) K Comerlord 6 10 9
		- 11 declared -

BETTING: 7-4 Russell Road, 4-1 Kings Veen, Native King, 9-2 Chicago City, 8-1 High Game, 20-1 Lone Star, 33-1 others 1998 Good Lord Murphy 8 11 12 R Dunwoody 11-4 (P Hobbs) 9 ran

FORM GUIDE

PURINE CUIDE.

Native King: 10-length winner here (2m, good) from Artemis on hurding debut. Third of 15 to impressive Bacchanal here (2m, good to soft) when may have needed race Russell Road: Progressive staying hurder, winner at Towester (2m5t, soft) and placed behind Bosins Mats at Newbury and Door To Door over this C&D (beaten 4 lengths) Chicago City: Good-looking Byo. Fair form in novice hurdies last two seasons, placed in November at Windsor (2m, good to soft) and Folkastone (2m6t, soft). in November at Windsor (2m, good to soft) and Folkestone (2m6), soft). Cold Class; Modest form in mid-division for bumpers (both on heavy ground) at Folkestone and Fontwell, soon pushed along. Probably stiff task on hurdling debut

High Game: 16 lengths behind Native King when fifth to Becchanal over 2m here (good to soft) lest month. Better form earlier when placed on heavy at Fontwell (2m2f) Kings Vean: 33-1, good debut effort when 111/2 lengths tourth of 7 finishers to Percy Parkseper at Kempton (2m6t) good). Open to considerable progress Light Reflections: Very little to recommend him from Flat or hurding debut Light Reflections: Very fittle to recommend him from Fat or hundling debut Lone Starr: Half-brother to Jodami. Showed little in novice hundles at Newbury (2m. good) and Doncaster (2m4t, good), off course 10 months in between Moondangs: Winner on Fat in New Zealand, 65-1, burly and pulled up on British debut in 9-runner novice hundle at Kempton (2m. soft) Quicksawood: Modest bumper form before 71/2 lengths fourth of 5 firsthers on hundling debut at Eveter (2m1t, good). Has out no toe since and is up against it here My Glendalought: Formerly trained by Francis Flood in lealand, still a maiden after campaign in bumpers and over variety of trips in novice hundles

VERDICT: Native King and RUSSELL ROAD have accomplished more than their ri-

vals, the latter making plenty of appeal after taking on a better class of opponent on his last two starts. High Gente cannot be dismissed on his best form, while both Chicago City and Kinge Veen are taking sorts from stables which have been out of form in recent months. Jeff King, Kings Vean's trainer, has been showing signs of a revivel.

12 10 HORSE & HOUND GRAND MILITARY GOLD CUP (AMA-

٤	). IU	TEURS) (E) £7,000 3m 110yds Penalty Value £5,084
1		CASTLE COIN (20) (Maj-Gen C Ramsay) J H Johnson 7 12 10 Mel G Wheeler (7)
2	0.00	COURT MELODY (70) (CD) (T Chappell) P Nichols 11 12 13 Mr D Alers-Henkey (5) 8
3	F6-324	DRANC'S BROOK (70) (D) (Na A M Sweet) K Belley 10 12 10
4	-3554	NORTH KILKENNY (25) (6F) (Col S.R. Alleri) R. Alner 8 12 10
5	1-3PH	SYMBOL OF SUCCESS (5) (CD) (Array Ar Corps) D Williams 8 12 10 Maj S.J Robinson (7)
6	10414/	ACT THE WAG (892) (CD) (R Ogden) M Tochuner 10 12 0
7	P.PP.P	BARICHSTE (12P) (D) (May J Hayward) N Pornfest 11 2 ()
8		CHARDEN (23) (D) (Mess S Cotteril) J Mulins 13 2 0Col R Webb-Bowen (7) V
9	042PP	COOLE CHERRY (71) (H Spack) C Sarvell 9 12 0
70		ENSIGN EWART (36) (D) (M W Sample) Mrs J Storey 8 12 0
11	50.3	GRANGE BRAKE (26P) (D) (H R Mould) Mrs C Timeton-Davles 13 12 O.Mr P Studiey (7)
12	P 6333	JULITARIA (17) (D) (A C Blog   Williams to 120
13	P0-U32	MASTER CRUSADER (SP) (D) (Mes L Homer) 8 Moore-Williams 13 (20 Miles L Homer (7)
14	54254P	DUNGECKS COUNTRY (22) (4th Rec. Royal Artillery) C Tozand 9 11 9 Mrs Greene (7)

14 54254P DUNNECKS COUNTRY (22) (NM Reg. Royal Artilary) CTrizzard 9 11 9 ... Mr S Greany (7)
BETTING: 3-1 Symbol Of Soccess, 4-1 Court Melody, Jediana, 15-2 Drain's Brook, 9-1 Act The Wag,

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Castle Coin: Won at Cork (2m5i, heavy) and Sedegfield (2m5i, good) last season and well-beaten thrid in Grade 2 at Airtine (3m1i, heavy). Deappointing this term Count Meleody: The class horse in the race, winner over CSD and second at Airtine (bittin good ground) first two starts this term. Has, however, shown no enthuses in on either start since, eventually refusing. Chances depend on a change of atthict Druki's Brook Below-form fourth in this event last year. Decent placed efforts this term at Huntingdon (3m6i, good) and Lingfield (3m, soft), but cometing to find North Killsamy: Won by 7 lengths in novice chase at Taumtin (2m3i, soft). Some senous errors when poor last of 4 on act at Pumpton. Needs to improve on all from Symbol Of Success: In excellent form, with wirs over CSD (from Eulogy and Harakham) and at Ludiow Sm. beat Stammen 1½ lengths), both on good to soft an act at the Wagt Would be in the shale-up if he reproduced his form of 1996/97, which included fourth in the Scottish National (4m1i, good). Unraced since, however Barichster Pulled up last four starts in hunter chase and points. Charden: Gyo, well below his best on return to action this term with 7 lengths second of 4 finishers to Charmer's Well in hunter chase and Foliestone (3m2i, soft). Coole Charry: Out of his depth on hundles form and no form over fances. Ensign Enant: 20-length winner of 6-runner hunter chase at Kelso (3m4i, good) last March. Has not reproduced that form in three starts since Grange Braker Formerly a smart chase, but now 13 and accomplished fittle in four starts in handcages last season. Point winner this term.

Juliant: Fairly useful chases creatable thrial at Wincanton (3m1i) and Exeter (2m7i) this season, both on good. Latest third place was back over hundles. Cherices Master Charges Carbitar who incises well not of hex depth. Master Crusader: Stiff task on form from novice chases, hunter chases and points Dunnicks Country: Another who locks well out of her depth

VERDICT: This should be won by either Court Melody. Symbol Of Success or JULIARA. Court Melody may or may not have been freshened up by a recent break, but looked go sour before it that, despite having clearly the best form, he cannot be recommended. The other two are in good form and there is little between them. 3.45 TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) 27,500 added 2m 6f Penalty Value 25,485 24-30 PARI DAWN (USA) (14) (C) (P Wiegard) Its A Penet 6 2 0 PARISE (V WATECHAPE (USA) (14) (C) (P Wiegard) Its A Penet 6 2 0 PARISE (USA) (F140) (Cuen Bazbeth) Bating 1 To 1 PARISE (D Comme PARISE (D COMME

FORM GUIDE

Far Dawn; Without a win since December 1986. Chanca on several of his placed efforts in the meantime, but below form this term and has looked relucant. elt; Useful middle-distance stayer on Plat for Lord Hurstingdon. Has had only wymerchaper, over hurdes, winning a Chapstor nonce in March 1994 last tree timed: Won 12-runner race at Foliastorie (2m6), soft) in November by a neck. Good seasond in nonce chase at same ourse following month; Should stay well suprame Genetim: 4-9, first success in novice hundle at Wetherby (2m4t, good to soft) in April. Satisfactory reeppearance when backward at Ascot last month Lond York Progressive novice last term, writing at Doncspare (2m4t, soft) and third at Apr (2m4t, good to firm). Well below form this lerm, starting over fences

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# Cabannes goes as Richmond sack 34

RICHMOND, THE Premiership One club plunged headlong into a financial crisis last week when Ashley Levett, their major investor, decided he had endured enough rugby politics yesh arday reeling from a savage team charged with streamlinsquad found themselves contemplating wage reductions of to keep the ship affoat.

RUGBY UNION By Chris Hewett

lusion that one of England's pioneering professional clubs to last him a lifetime, were had not hit the rocks with a fearful thump were disabused of round of job and salary cuts im- that notion on Wednesday night posed by the administration when the administration team from Buchler Phillips, one of ing the business. Three front- the United Kingdom's leading line players – Laurent insolvency specialists, ad-Cabannes, Dominic Chapman dressed the Richmond workand Adrian Davies - were force. They painted a grisly among 34 employees shown picture of a business in free-fall the door while the rest of the and said serious sacrifices would have to be made simply

As a result, 11 members of Anyone basking under the il- the playing and coaching staff

were made redundant, along ber of the administration team, proaching £3 million. Bitterly with 23 colleagues from the said the monthly wage bill had frustrated by interminable ancillary departments. The casualties started at the very top: Cabannes, capped 49 times by France and one of the finest open-side flankers in world rugby during a heyday that extended well into the middle years of the decade, had been at the club only a matter of months after signing from Harlequins during the close season.

Chapman, capped by England last summer, and Davies. the former Wales outside-half. have struggled with injury this season but were considered integral parts of the Premier-

Lee Manning, a senior mem-

been slashed from £230,000 to £120.000 "in line with income expectations". He added: "The last few days have been extremely difficult and some tough decisions had to be made. We are confident that with these changes, the structure of the club will be attractive to potential new investors and that a successful Company Voluntary Arrangement can

Levett, a multi-millionaire copper trader who now lives on the Continent, informed Richmond late last week that he was withdrawing his support after

be achieved."

wrangling between the Premiership clubs, the Rugby Football Union and the organising body of the European Cup, he said he was unwilling to commit further funds to a game still unable to finalise an intelligible domestic structure.

Ironically, his move came within days of Richmond reaching the semi-finals of the Tetley's Bitter Cup by beating the favourites, Leicester, at the Madejski Stadium in Reading the venue they have rented since local councillors refused them permission to develop their more familiar home at the Athletic Ground in south-west structure a long-term strategy Africa. Assuming agreement is

club expect their biggest ever youd," he said. crowd for tomorrow's Premiership game with Bath.

Meanwhile, Newcastle unveiled their new board yesterday in the wake of Sir John Hall's decision to turn his back on rugby, David Thompson, the information technology tycoon who has bought the reigning Premiership champions and their Kingston Park ground for the grand total of £1, will act as chairman, with Paul Mackings as his chief executive and Rob Andrew as director of rugby. "I believe in the long-term viability of rugby, both in England and the north-east, and I intend to

London Equally ironically, the for the next five years and be-reached there will be no

On the international front, the poor bloody infantry. With club owners are urging. the World Cup, a newly expanded Six Nations Championship, a full hand of Premiership and knock-out fixtures and in all probability a re- ed a rest in both 1992 and 1996 vamped European Cup, England's finest might reasonably have expected a millennial summer on the sun-lounger. Dream on. It emerged yesterday that Rugby Football Union officials were negotiating a twomatch trip to the southern hemisphere, including full-on Tests in Australia and South hood of further trips south of the

prospect of the Premiership season being extended into you might spare a thought for mid-summer, as a number of

Any tour next summer would fly in the face of recent RFU policy: England's international brigade were grantfollowing the '91 and '95 World Cups. However, the volume of Test rugby has exploded since the dawning of professionalism almost four years ago and with loose home-and-away agreements between England and both Australia and South Africa in force, there is every likeli-

## Nash's decision disturbs batting

at what used to be called Lancaster Park but now masquerades under the name of the Jade Stadium, the side winning the toss has opted to field first, seldom with the desired result.

Dion Nash broke the mould when he won the toss at the start of the second Test and will soon have regretted that he did not follow the contemporary fashion when New Zealand were bundled out for 168, Apart from some early movement which you would expect on the and was caught at second slip. try. first day from almost any Test Gary Stead, in his first Test, first day from almost any Test there was not much in it now glanced his first ball for for the bowlers and New Zealand foundered because of until the hunch interval when bad batting. While Shaun New Zealand were 104 for 3. Pollock bowled well for four Immediately afterwards, three wickets, Allan Donald, who wickets fell for 11 runs, all to picked up three, was not the menace he usually is.

The standard of cricket was disappointing throughout the day and although New Zealand have the built-in excuse that three of their principal batsmen - Stephen Fleming, their cap- firm wrists at one which lifted tain. Craig McMillan and Chris and should have been left Cairns - are injured, they would have expected to have made a much better fist of it

Brian Young was bowled between bat and pad by Donald and after Roger Twose had dri-

BY HENRY BLOFELD

South Africa 54-0

ven without moving into line, New Zealand were 18 for 2. There were now some good strokes from Matt Horne and Nathan Astle before Horne drove at Jacques Kallis's sec-

four and batted with composure poor strokes, and the innings never recovered in front of a

Astle square cut Donald without due care and attention and was caught at third man. Then, Chris Harris pushed with alone, while Gary Stead slashed without any footwork and was caught by the wicketkeeper. Mark Boucher, off Donald, who left the field in his 18th over with a slight stomach strain. Pollock and Paul Adams

and South Africa were left with 24 overs to face before the close. Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs remained in control during an excellent opening spell by Simon Doull, who had to go off in his sixth over with a strained ankle, limping uncomfortably from the field. Kirsten, who hit a commanding 35, including six boundaries, and Gibbs, who finished on 15, were not troubled later ond ball without any footwork as Nash gave all his bowlers a

L Vetcori low b Adams ....... B Doull c Boucher b Pollock Total (63.4 overs) 168
Falk: 1-13 2-18 3-60 4-112 5-115 6-115
7-138 8-157 9-157.

-1: Cronje 6.1-4-2-0; rozema ... SOUTH APRICA - First landings



Paul Adams celebrates the wicket of the New Zealand captain, Dion Nash, in Christchurch yesterday

## Pitch at Sabina 'fit for Test'

SABINA PARK, notorious as the only ground to have forced the abandonment of a Test match. will be ready for the second Test between Australia and the West Indies, the groundsman said. "We are on target for Saturday. We will not be having a repeat of that [abandonment] this time," Pat Gordon, a member of the Sabina staff, said.

Management said much has been done to prevent a repeat of the embarrassing spectacle against England last year, which saw the first Test halted after only 10.1 overs. Umpires ruled the pitch was not up to standard after several of the English batsmen were struck by short-pitched deliv-

Three first-class matches have been played at Sabina Park since January. "The spinners got a lot out of [the pitch] in the Busta Cup matches and we are expecting the same for the Test," Gordon said.

The West Indies are still hoping to have their fast bowler Curtly Ambrose fit for the match, which starts in Kingston, Jamaica, tomorrow. Ambrose has been declared fit for his 86th Test despite suffering a knee strain in the crushing first Test defeat at Port of Spain, Trinidad but ... there are fears he may suffer

#### AYR **HYPERION**

2.10 Red Hot Indian 2.45 Clady Boy 3.20 Vilprano 3.55 Harfdecent 4.25 The Odin Line 5.00 Mr Busby

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places).

■ Left-hand galloping course. ■ Course is E of town on A758. Ayr rail station (service from

price) CAR PARK: Free
FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS
W LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 25-143 (182%), L Lungo 23-176 (131%), J J O'Neill 20-124 (161%), P Monteith 18-139 

26-184 (15.9%). P Niven 19-122 (15.6%), R Supple 17-95 (17.9%) # FAVOURITES: 161-112 [391%]

2.10 LOCH DOON 'NH' MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS F) 52,500 added 2m 5- BODEGA BAY (406) Mrs M Revoley 7 th B 7 64. WINDTHROP (S03) Mas L Russel 6 n 5. S Durack
8 G ABOVE THE GRASS (734) D Roberton 8 n 3 Mr C R Water
9 (05604 ONE STOP (24) M Barres 6 n 3 . S Taylor
10 PLP00 PHARGULA (132) Mes L Barres 6 n 3 . S Taylor 1 2-534 SILLYMORE (11) (D) (SF) Movem 6 n 3C McComack (3) - 11 declared -BETTRIC 5-2 Red Hot Indian, 3-1 Salymore, 9-2 Planty Courage, 5-1 BodeFORM VERDICT

promise in bumpers taking on a couple who won bumpers but have proved only ordinary over hundles so far, namely Red Hot Indian and Sillymore. The progressive PLENTY COURAGE is fit and in form – whereas Bodega Bey and Pampered Gale have been off for some time - and that entitles

2.45 ROYAL HIGHLAND FUSILIERS NOVICE CHASE (E) £4,000 added 2m 4f 1 320-P5 CASTLE CLEAR (174) (BF) Mrs M Reveloy 6 11 2....

P.3- LORO COOLPOE (370) M Tochunier 8 11 2. PSP-P LOTHIAN COMMODORE (27) N Richards 8 th 2 ...... P Riven 

\_\_\_\_\_\_htr J P McNausar (5) -11 declared -BETTING: 4-1 Jesselle, 5-1 Castle Clear, Up For Ransoner, 11-2 Forrest Tribe. 6-1 Clady Boy, 8-1 Lord Cookres, Palace Of Gold, 12-1 others

FORM VERDICT The tho who are making their chase disbut all have the powith those with plenty of racing experience. Jessofie and Palace Of Gold have to be feared if translating their hurding form to fences, but preference is for Insh raider CLADY BOY who is tackling much lesser opposition than when fourth on

3.20 JAMES BARCLAY H'CAP HURDLE

2502 AZTEC RIVER (27) Mrs M Reveloy 6 ti 0 . Mr A Dempasy (3) B 2-5446 BERNARD SEVEN (13) Mrs I. Russell 7 To 12 . . . . . S Durack 

-7 declared -Minimum weight: 10st, True handrap weights: Family 9st (fb. SETTING: 9-4 Aztec Plyer, 7-2 Vilpramo, 9-2 Phar Echo, Planning Galo, 8-1 Bernard Saven, 12-1 Shonara's Vitry, 25-1 Famadiyr

FORM VERDICT

Most of these find winning difficult and are consequently not great purring material. Vilginano deserves to get his head in great puriting measure. Vilgerano deserves to get his need in front, but in a small field his lack of page is a worry. AZTEC FLYER may not always look that resolute, but he has won four times on the Flat in the last two years and he showed at Caltanok last time that a race like this is within his capublices. Planning Galin makes most appeal of the remeinder.

3.55 ARTHUR CHALLENGE HANDICAP CHASE (D) £5,250 added 2m 4f 

- 5 declared -BETTING: evene Harridocent, 9-4 Wasner George, 11-2 Fen Terrier, 13-2

**FORM VERDICT** 

On recent form the looks a match between Harfdecent and WEAVER GEORGE. The latter had loday's other three nun-ners well beaten off when returning to form at Newcasite last week and can run off a mark 3th lower here than he will from

4.25 AYRSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOC. 1 3P/P2- ALI'S ALISI (283P) (C D) A Dickmen 12 12 5.16r C Multisil (7) 2 12/P-F HOWAYSMAN (47P) (CD) K Anderson 9 12 5...Mir K Anderson 3 2233-1 PIPER O'DRIJMINIOND (28P) Miss P Robson 12 12 5.......

US-450 BORDER GLORY (12P) W M Scott 8 11 12 . Mr X Remarks (17) 82,2-P EASTLANDS HALGETT (2P) J Startley 10 11 2. Mr T Matricton (17) P1R11- THE ODN LINE (2007) Mes J Purses 10 11 12 . Mr B Gibson (3) P1-23 HOPES DELIGHT (12) (87) N Exect 6 11 8 ... Mr J Swert (7) PP5-32 POETIC SYTRIGUE (20) (87) A Trotter 7 11 8 ... Mr R Trotter (7) 25(0) P STRATHMORE LODGE (267) (3) K Robson (1) ¥ 7 .. Mr R Morgan (7)

10 U4-P22 SPARTAN BRISEZE (12) J Hughes 8 to 38line L Bradburne (7) - 10 declared -SETTING: 5-2 Howaymen, 3-1 The Odin Line, 5-1 Piper O'Drummand, All's Allbi, 8-1 Hopies Delight, Poetic Intrigue, Spartan Bresse. 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT

HOWAYMAN should be able to repeat lest year's success in this event against mainly moderate opposition. He has the beat-ing of Piper O'Drummond on last sessor's form and a bigger threat may be THE ODIN LINE, who is partnered by promising amatieur Bruce Gibson for the first time.

5.00 CAPABILITY SCOTLAND & SCOPE NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (D) £4,000 2m 

- 7 dectared -Minimum: 10st. True Iricap weights. Jone Holley Set 12b, Meudowisch Set 7b. BETTING: 7-4 fat Bustly, 7-2 fat O Magic, 4-1 Sen Francisco, 9-2 West-em General, 7-1 Jone Holley, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT

WESTERN GENERAL may be able to build on lest week's

## Johnson has eye on clock

THE DOUBLE Olympic champion Michael Johnson issued a warning yesterday to sprinters who have dominated the 200 metres in recent years. "I expect to be back at the top of my game this year," said Johnson who, because of nagging leg problems, has been unable to push his 200m time below 20 seconds since 1996. That was the year he twice smashed the world record, the second time

"Certainly I can get back to the low 19s again," said Johnson from his training camp in Waco, Texas. "I don't doubt that at all I wasn't able to sprint the way I needed to the last couple of years. But now I'm back in shape and confident."

Confident enough that Johnson predicted a shake-up in the 200m world rankings, in which last year, for the first time since 1989, he failed to gain top-10 status. "I hope to end the season ranked No L" he said, noting that the world champion, Trinidad's Ato Boldon, and the Namibian Olympic silver medallist Frankie Fredericks would again be pressing him. The Texan also said that his June," he added.

ATHLETICS

BY GENE CHERRY

quest for Butch Reynolds's 1988 400m world record of 43,29 had not ended. "The objective is to go out there and run faster than I ever have," said Johnson. who has led the world 400m rankings for an unparalleled eight consecutive years. "My PR (personal record) is dropping it to a stunning 19.32 a 10th of a second away from the

world record. If I run faster than my PR, I'm probably under the world record." Preparing for two seasonopening 200m races in South Africa this month, Johnson said he felt "on track" to be in the kind of shape he was in 1995 and

1996 when he claimed unprecedented victories in both the 200m and 400m at the World Championships in Gothenburg and the Atlanta Olympics. "Training has been excellent," he said. The hamstring and Achilles problems, which

slowed him in 1997 and prevented his participation in last year's US Championships, appear under control. "I haven't had any problems

since the beginning of last

#### HEREFORD

ga Bay, Parapered Gale, 13-2 Silver Howe, 50-1 others

HYPERION 1.50 Angus 2.25 Distant Echo 3.00 Jollyhack 3.30 Tremendisto 4.05 Gratomi 4.40 Mr Dow Jones 5.10 Artic Ground

GOING: Good to Soft.

# Right-hand course with 300yd run-in.

# Course is N of city on A48. Hereford station im. ADMISSION.

Cut; 7:3, Tattersalls 5:0. Course Enclosure E5. Accompanied. unds:\153 free all enclosures CAR PARK: Free FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS II LEADING TRAINERS. M Pipe 37-105 (352\*\*). N Twisten-Devies

22-19 (2024), P Hobbs 14-71 (97%), K Befley 13-69 (188%), 24 LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 32-106 (302%), C Uswally 22-100 (22°c) R Johnson 12-15 (104°c) R Dummody 11-37 (297°c). ## FAVOURITES: 211-536 (394%)
BLINKERED FIRST YIME: Ashrbox (300). Trakelor (300). Another Chancer (visored, 510)

1.50 BONUSFILM NOVICE HURDLE (E) 21F+F4 AKRIA (PZ) (181) J Tuzi E 12 H Offwer (S)
4 AKRIS (RZ) (15) K Esizy 8 ft 2 N Willemson
4 BE MY J/DGE (R7) Mich Y Willems 6 ft 2 C Mande
R0 BRYWGR (B1) D Marray Paris 5 ft 2 D Gallogher
4 ULCI CAHER SOCIETY (JRR) J O'Step 7 ft 2 Michael Brennan 53 CHARWELL (21) Na S LONGON E II 2 13 HAPPY HUSSAR (17) H D2Y 6 Ti 2 

- 16 declared -BETTING: 7-a Angus, 7-2 Lady For Life, 4-1 Se My Judge, 9-2 Happy Hussan, 12-1 Caher Society, 14-1 Akina, 18-1 Brynkir, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT

It is impossible to predict with any accuracy how most of the key contenders well perform on the duty so this is not a race that makes much appeal as a betting medium. LADY FOR LIFE sets the standard on her Roscommon form and she gets Line sets the standard on her rescommen form and she gets the vote though Akina, Anguis, Be My Judge, Ceiher So-clety and Happy Husser are all interesting against her

2.25 TRIPLEPRINT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m

0-3551 SOL MUSIC (8) (C) (D) J King 7 fl 8 ..... A P MisCoy 15005 ROYAL RAPPORT (98) (D) J O'Shea 6 TI 2\_Michael Bremen V

SETTING: evens Distant Echo, 2-1 Soi Music, 9-2 Resenceantz, 10-1 Jack.

FORM VERDICT

DISTANT ECHO and Sol Music can both bowl along in from, so this should be a true lest, and Distant Echo's credent are just the stronger Resenceantz is a threat if back on song. but the ground may be softer than ideal for him.

3.00 BONUSPHOTO NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (G) £2,000 added 2m 11 34400 MARSH MARIGOLD (7) G Ferro 5 til 1 ... N Williamso

20F065 GUNNER SID (8) 6 Preece 8 TI O....... Mr H Ephgrave (7) COOP MONTEZUMAS REVENCE (737) Mes A School 11 TI O. R Balletty P SCALP (NZ) (86) 1) Duggen 7 11 0 . . . . . . . . . . . . . H Oliver (5) 0-0 PRINCESS OF HEARTS (190) A Red 5 to 9 ... C Moude 6 SPACE MOUSE (25) Nrs P Ford 8 10 9....... Mr Ni Frith (7) 06-720 BRETECHE (PTO (9) (D) (BP) M Pco 4 107 \_ ... A P McCoy V O ASINBOX (7) B Methon 4 106. . . . . O ASINBOX (7) B Meshan 4 106. . . . M Aham B 4 JOLLYHACK (155) J O'Shea 4 106. . . . . Michael Brotran 5450 TRAKELOR (9) R Holinshead 4 t0 t .... Gary Lyons B

- 13 declared -BETTHNG: 5-6 Breleche, 7-2 Marsh Marigold, 6-1 Jollybook, 10-1 Gunner Std, 12-1 Trakelor, 16-1 Space Mouse, Mystery Mars. 20-1 King Acrylic,

FORM VERDICT

An uninspiring seler that will not take much withing. Bretoche has the ability to win but is not one to rely on, and similar comments apply to Marsh Marigold who has gone of the box in the belief that a drop in distance will suit.

3.30 BONUSPRINT HANDICAP HURDLE (D) £5,000 added 2m 3f 110yds

04-160 HALONA (41) (CD) C Morlock 9 12 0 ...... Nir S Stronge (7) 8 2543P0 SURABAYA (FR) (116) F Joedan 4 10 0 , . . . \_ \_ D Gallegine

- B declared - Montain weight. 10st True handicap weights: Surabaye 8st 13th. BETTING: 11-4 Tremendisto, 3-1 Halonu, 7-2 Shadlenn, 7-1 Waltur's Dresen, 8-1 Ranger Stotme, 10-1 Shu Gas, lakend Vision, 33-1 Surabaya FORM VERDICT

Charlie Morlock has won with three of his last four numers and HALDNA can maintain the sequence by conceding weight all round. Likely to be able to dictate affairs from the front, she will have her burden decreased by Sam Stronge's 7to atwance. She is expected to foil Shediann, who is back or

4.05 DOUBLEPRINT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m

THAT MUSIC PLEASE (10) (CD) 8 Proce 7 to 10 Jan H Ephysian (7) 24136 FERRUTINO (80) (D) P Roth 11 Tr 8...... M Griffishe (5) 1611P PLAY CAMES (45) (CD) R Lee 11 Tr 8 ..... M Williamson F2-435 COLONEL BLAZER (118) (D BF) Msc H KngH 7 11 5.D Gallegher P-0600 DAMAS (FR) (24) (D) D NcCan B 11 5 \_\_\_\_\_ C Copto (S) B 37422 GRATONI (74) (C) (D) (BP) P Rithers 9 Tr 2 ... A P MacCoy 5312 SHADRACH (314) (D) Mrs H Maddy 8 to to ... O McPhail (S) -9 declared =

BETTING: 9-4 Gratomi, 4-1 Northern Saddler, Cool Spot, 12-2 Colonel

Blazza, 7-1 Play Games, 9-1 Shedrach, 10-1 Ferrusico, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT The booking of Tony McCoy for GRATOMI can prove significant, since he is a horse who likes to dominate and this is a course where it pays to race prominently. Grational produced

good form in better-class events last year, he won here after

a similar mid-season break last February, he won't mind soft-

or ground # it rains, and his trainer's course record reads well

4.40 BONUSPRINT HUNTER CHASE (H) \$2,000 added 3m if 110yds

P-LF1P ARCHER (14) (CD) R Laws 11 24 Ids A Price (7) (PGS-1 CHARMER'S WELL 23) (D) G Brown 11 24 Ids N Felidy (5) 2623' EMERALD IONOHT (705P) R Harley 9 2 0 . Ids H Hanley (7) 33LEP GREVILLE AGAIN (27P) (D) 4 Grunott 10 20 Jils A Wardow (7) 

FORM VERDICT

ARCHER is proven over this course and distance and a repeat of he winning form here in February could well be good anough. Chemier's Well is the obvious danger, but there is a doubt about what he actually actived at Folliestonic (mod-est Topspeed figure), and he did have a hard race there.

5.10 DOUBLEPRINT NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (F) \$3,000 added 3m 2f

Monteum weight: 10st True Handicap weights: Dening Ruler Set 10th. BETTRIC: 9-4 Artic Ground, 11-4 Pennyahel, 7-1 Ellemelliewoo, 8-1 burn Boy, Alpha Leether, 10-1 September Breeze, 20-1 others **FORM VERDICT** 

A bad race in which the probable favourite Artic Ground may be worth taking on, given a question mark about his stamina. It may pay to take a chance on SPARKLING BUCK return ing to form after a change of scenery. A thorough stayer, she has had no chance in the races she has lackled this winter.

## **Boogerd heads board**

onds behind.

SANTIAGO BOTERO, of Colonbia, yesterday won the fifth stage of the week-long Paris to San Remo classic on 20 March Nice race. Botero, who rides for the Spanish Kelme team, crossed the line ahead of Michael Boogerd of the Netherlands to complete the 187km stage from Cusset to Firminy.

Boogerd, who rides for Rabobank, gained the overall lead after yesterday's leg. 16 seconds ahead of the Belgian Andrei Tchmil of the Lotto

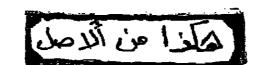
team. The race continues today with a 211km stage between Romans-sur-Isère and Sisteron. Massimo Strazzer, of Italy, beat the pack in a sprint finish yesterday to win the second stage of the Tirreno-Adriatico

race, a prelude to the Milan to

CYCLING

that opens the World Cup circuit. The Latvian Romans Vainsteins, a second-year professional, was third and held on to his overall lead. The topranked Michele Bartoli, an Italian, was 14th and remained second to Vainsteins, five sec-

Strazzer completed the mostly flat 178km north from Sorrento, near Naples, to Santa Maria Capua Vetere in 4hr 43min 15sec. However, he did not do enough work to make up for his poor showing in the opening leg and stands 77th overall, 8min behind the leader.



# Merseyside on defence over Fowler furore Casting Graeme Le Saux as the innocent root.

innocent party has left Scousers seeing red. By Guy Hodgson

TO LISTEN to the radio stations think Graeme Le Saux in Merseyside these past 10 deserved the OBE for putting days you would think you were violence where it belongs, in a different country where values have become separated if Liverpool Echo. "From now not divorced from the rest of the UK. Alienation is the word.

The subject that has levered Liverpool off the mainland and into the Irish Sea is Robbie Fowler, who opinion formers have cast as the' indefensible since his childish spat with Graeme Le Saux two weekends ago. Well his own are defending him and doing so vig-

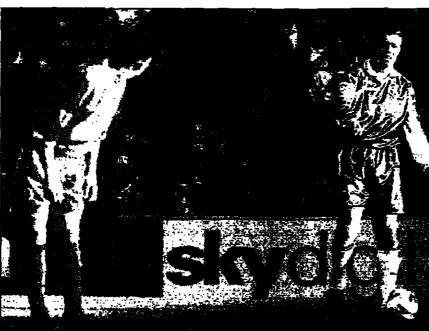
Not because they have any truck with Fowler's homophobic gestures at Le Saux - even drinkers in pubs in the streets surrounding Anfield where sympathy ought to run deepest found his behaviour unsavoury - but because they perceive the incident has been used as a convenient stick to whack the nation's favourite punchbag: the Scouser. A siege mentality is developing if it has not

"Reading and hearing the

Chris Bascombe wrote in the on every time a player is insulted by another, a flying elbow should be meted out. And when the FA investigate the guilty party should hold up his hands and say, 'sorry, but he called me a nancy boy.'

"It should be put straight from the outset that what Fowler did was childish. No one could dispute that. Prejudice, in any form, is a particularly vile vice. However, for the FA to accuse him of misconduct when meditated, and let's be honest here, underhand attack defies result of lack of thought, rather

than prejudice." That is the flavour of the mood and articulated less fluently almost to a man and woman by callers to local radio phone-ins. The gist being that because he is middle class, intelligent and out of the main-



Stamford Bridge flashpoints: Robbie Fowler (left) shows his backside to Graeme Le Saux as the Chelsea man prepares to take a free-kick, and (right) Le Saux takes retribution against the Liverpool striker Reuters/Mirror

lieve, he has been lucky that the man crudely calling his sexu-

ality into question is a Scally. "We do think we're being got at," one supporter said, tapping the torrent of grievance, "and, our shoulders but southern journalists like having a go. You can't deny that." An Ever-

simple as that."

Given that 35 years ago even some Mancunians tried to ape the Scouse accent made trendy by the Beatles, this is a massive turnaround in perception socially and culturally. Maybe it is payback time for when Liverpool was as trendy as Carnaby

losophy. Most of all, they be- ton fan added: "If you're a Street or when the football club will say the media is against Scouser you're scum; it's as that carries the city's name dominated Europe. The feeling flourished with newspaper coverage of Hillsborough and was compounded by the Jamie Bul-ger murder, where the whole city was made to feel guilty, so suspicion of journalistic motives

"Every club in the country Merseyside has its idiots and

this country."

Alan Edge, the author of Faith Of Our Fathers - Football As A Religion and a season ticket holder at Anfield, admits Scousers are raw-nerved but argues they have good reason when some of the clichés attached to Liverpool would be classed as racist if they were levelled at other communities. The Fowler incident, he believes, was jumped upon because it fitted the stereotype of the Scouser as the "anti-social,

anti-bourgeois Scally". "There are ancient sturs." he said, "which paint Liverpudlians as lazy, casual and thieving and more recent ones about us being mawkish and and whining. It does get up our noses, especially those of us who know these accusations could be levelled at anyone, any-

"The floodgates of criticism opened with Militant and since then we've had Heysel. Hillsborough, Jamie Bulger and widespread misrepresentation in the media painting a city in decline. There is a tendency among the media to target Scousers and there is also the compensatory tendency in the city to see offence where none

them," said Bascombe, who

also edits The Kop magazine.

"But people seem to be al-

most gloating in Liverpool's de-

cline. And the team is identified

with the city. The view has al-

most become 'Robbie's a

Scouser so he must be a bigot',

which is complete nonsense.

that if the two protagonists had swapped roles Fowler would still have been cast as the: villain for cowardly elbowing La Saux Tommy Smith, the former Liverpool captain, subscribes to that view saying the controversy has escalated with more than a little bit of southern

He says a one-sided picture has been painted "of loutish behaviour on the part of the lad from the north against sheer trustration on the part of an unfortunate family man from the south.

"Le Saux has been cast as the innocent. Sneaking up behind an opponent and elbowing him in the back of the head is clearly an irrelevance when weighed up against the accusations against Fowler. It seems he should be hung, drawn and quartered with his: head displayed on a spike at the Tower of London."

That is the voice of Mersey side calling and its echoes of alienation has implications that go beyond football. Just because you are paranoid, as the saying goes, it does not mean someone isn't trying to get you - and Liverpool

Premiership struggle: Injury-plagued midfielder admits he was running short on patience as Forest continued to slide

# Time for Stone to shed his troubles

STEVE STONE was unsure whether he should laugh or cry the other week as he returned lowing yet another in a long line of Premiership defeats. Seven days earlier he had endured the humiliation of playing for a Nottingham Forest side that conceded eight to Manchester United This time, Forest had gone down 2-1 to West Ham at

His wife was there to greet him. Stone takes up the story. "The first thing she said was: 'Oh. not too bad this week, then. You only got beat by two." I put my head in my hands and said: You just don't know the right things to say to me, do you pet?" Later I had a chuckle about it. She was trying to be nice and upbeat, but it's pretty sad when even the wife's thinking losing 2-1 is a good result for

In such circumstances it was hardly surprising when Stone agreed yesterday to swap Forest's seemingly doomed battle against relegation for a new career at the other end of the Premiership with Aston

Twelve years at one club is a long time for any player and, to use Stone's own phrase, life at Forest this season has been "pretty average". Despite his usually bubbly persona, and that he was recently presented with the Wilkinson Sword Preaward. Forest's plight had been getting to the former England

## IAN

Blackpool Pleasure Beach proportions. Three broken legs and three relegations vied for tions and a nine-cap international spell interrupted by a career-threatening knee injury that saw him out of action for 10 months, during which time Forest went down to the First

"You could say it's never quiet at Forest." he admitted. with a rueful smile. "I think once, just once, I've played for a Forest side that finished around 10th in the League. The rest of the time it's been either gunning for promotion or trying to fight off relegation. It should never have happened to a club like Forest, but we became a yo-yo outfit."

The writing was on the wall from the start of this season, at least as far as Stone was concerned. "For a while we could compete with the big clubs, but not any more. We became a selling club and everyone there, if they're honest, recognised the inevitable once we'd sold some of our best players.

"There have been a number of times this season when. mentally; it's been pretty tough. especially towards the end of few results. Dave Bassett's management. I ers losing their self-belief. We'd

'For a time we could compete with the big clubs but not any more.' Steve Stone indicates why the chance to leave Forest for Aston Villa was so attractive and I'd think to myself

'absolutely no chance'." Predictably, the arrival of Ron Atkinson was seen by some to be the answer. Stone begs to differ. "Don't get me wrong about Ron. He's all right. He likes people to be bright and unbeat around the place, and he works hard on the basics. I team around a little and get a

worker, especially with a group of players who go 21 games In his time at Forest Stone be one down at half-time and without a win and are then goals in the run-up to the finals. and gave me a right good clip had a rollercoaster ride of the manager would tell us we asked to win something like Then injury struck, and Stone round the ear," Stone admits.

still had a chance and that we nine out of their remaining 18. should get stuck in. I'd look We should have kept some of around the dressing-room, see our better players, and bought the expressions on the faces, a few more in as well, but it's no use talking about that now. It's over. If Forest don't start winning right now they're down, and could end up with the lowest points ever in the history of the Premiership. Now that

The previous lows experienced had at least taught him knew he'd come in, change the a lesson or two which, in Forest's current plight, had been put to good use. Back in 1996 Stone became a key member of England's Euro 96 squad, scor-

would be massively embar-

his own plans.

"It's fair to say I grew pretty desperate at the time," he recalls. "I knew we were going to be relegated and that I'd be returning as a Division One player. It got to the stage where I'd come to a Forest home game, sit in the bar with the players' wives, and not move all afternoon. I'd rather get steamed than watch the match. I began to wallow in my self-pity. It was awful at home because it just wasn't me."

Once again it took his wife to provide her own brand of realing a number of important ity. "She just blew up one day

could only watch from afar as "She told me to buck up. After his club plummeted along with that I did. It helps having three kids as well. I've got a 10-yearold, a five-year-old and a 22month-old baby now, and you can't be too depressed at home,

can you? "For a while it was touch and go whether I'd ever play football again. Only 50 per cent of players recover from the injury I had. So while losing this season and facing relegation has been bad, it's not as bad as it was when I was injured. At least football. I get over losing a

used to." Stone has also grown wiser. When he renewed his contract being on the ball. with Forest he insisted on a

egated.

successful Premiership club and to reclaim his England place, remain intact. Yesterday's move should guarantee the former and will do no harm to his chances of realising the

"You've got to be realistic." he says. "I still have massive belief in my own ability, but it's a great deal easier to play in a I am paid very well for playing good team than a bad one, especially when you're on the match much quicker than I right wing. I seem to have been chasing most of the time recently rather than actually

clause that allowed him to leave do in this game. I've never the club if they were to be rel- played in a cup final, and I really want to get back into the Eng-His ambitions, to play for a land team, but you don't stand much chance if you play for a club staring relegation in the face. There are a lot of players who believe they should be

> they do." After his 12 years of dedicated service to Forest, Stone can hardly be accused of being disloyal. Even without his departure, Forest were looking odds-on to be playing in the First Division next season. Stone, on the other hand, can look forward to realising the potential which once made him one of the Premiership's most



folk who pay attention to events outside the Nationwide League, Taunton Town versus Tiverton Town is just about the biggest game in the season's calendar.

It is a fixture that in recent the outcome of the Screwfix Direct Western League title race, which has been won by it will bring to an end their five years and by Taunton in The club from the Somerset

hold their own in the Conference but, for geographical ready to return. and financial reasons, they have been content with re- two sides meet at Taunton's ceded a penalty in the ninth if not better," the Somerset

BY RUPERT METCALF

gional football at a lower level until now, that is. Tiverton have applied for promotion years has had a big influence on to the Dr Martens League

If the Devon side do go up. Tiverton four times in the past active rivalry with Taunton. county town left the Southern Both sides could probably League due to a lack of funds in 1983, and they do not feel

Tomorrow, though, when the

and regional pride will be at extra time of the 1994 Vase compete." stake. The prize for the winners final by Diss Town, so their of two all-ticket semi-final legs is a place in the final of the FA Carlsberg Vase at Wembley in May, against either Bedlington Terriers or Thame United.

If Tiverton prevail after the second leg at their Ladysmead home tomorrow week, it will be their third trip to Wembley. They lost the 1993 Vase final to Bridlington Town, but were victorious against Tow Law Town in the same event last

After leading until they con- we are at least equal with them,

hunger for success this year may be greater. They have played second fiddle to Tivernow they feel they have the semi-finals.

have a 12-point lead at the top of the Western League over the champions and the Vase holders, and they have played one fewer game. "This year we feel

edge at last over their great

Wordsworth Drive ground, minute of second-half injury side's manager, Russell much more than league points time. Taunton were beaten in Musker, said. "We can certainly

The ambition for Musker and his men is not just to reach Wembley but to make up for last season, when Taunton were ton in recent seasons, but beaten by Tow Law in the Vase

"I've never been so disappointed in all my footballing After Tiverton's 2-1 defeat at career," the former Bristol City Bridport on Tuesday, Taunton and Torquay United midfielder

"We lost to a side that nine times out of 10 we would have beaten. Everybody at the club was gutted."

This year, though, it could be Taunton's turn to smile.

## Goals tell for England

strong position to edge out the against Andorra, have a differ- Etherington, plus another host nation, Spain, in their came ence of +2. It means, for paign to qualify from their European Championship group.

England defeated Andorra 8-0 in their latest match in Rota on Wednesday, while Spain could only overcome Israel 2-0. That leaves England and Spain level on points at the top of the table after they had

who will play Israel, have a goal

shared a 1-1 draw on Monday. However, England have a far superior goal difference and that will be the deciding factor if the teams are still locked together after today's final round of matches. England,

intermediate round against Norway next month. England, coached by David Platt and Nigel Spackman, scored four times in each half against Andorra, who fielded a young and inexperienced side. Goals from Scott Parker, Luke

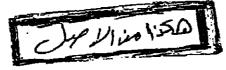
Chadwick, Darius Vassell and a Jamie Milligan penalty put England 4-0 up at half-time.

After the interval, further difference of +8, while Spain, King, Joe Cole, his first at concern," he said.

ENGLAND UNDER-18 are in a who finish their programme Under-18 level, Matthew

penalty from Milligan example, that if England beat Fifa, the world governing Israel 3-0, then Spain will have body, has approved emergency to win by 10 clear goals to stop medical plans, including evac-England progressing into the uation, when Nigeria host the World Under-20 Championships next month. There have been increasing fears over the standard of the medical conditions that exist in the

West African state. Jack Warner, the Fifa vicepresident, insisted that the problems have been overstated. "I've been to Nigeria seven times altogether and I have examined every detail. goals followed from Ledley There is absolutely no cause for





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e esta playing for a better team than and the management of the

# furore Yorke 'one of the greatest' says Zola

believed this time and a Merceyside the suspicion i that if the two protegoing idini! सरकार्य नहीं। हिस्स हिस्सा दक्का कर्म विकास Application remaining the growing of the growing some reserve the growing of the Saux Thomas South the form d but Parales of calquin appenden that view saying the com-CK AL. Asher proceeding with not iki hr them a father put of souther litira Milu:

THE INDEPENDENT

He says a one-sided pictor here been painted of long he haviour on the part of theh from the north against the from the many dealer steer frustration on the part of a underturnite family man fru

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**PHKY** 

"La. Saux has been cast a "Le Saux mas oven cast a the mone cent Sneaking up be hind an opponent and elbosis him in the back of the head him in the back of the head electric an irrelevance the weighted up against the am scattons amonst Fowler seems he should be him heral displayed on a spike at h "hwer of Lundon," alld

That is the voice of Mersy sale calling and its echos ( alternation has implications go beyond football. Ja percause, turt are barausig the saying goes, it does to mean someone isn't trying ter! you and Liverpor in-lieves, the knives are ou

ontinued to slide

GIANFRANCO ZOLA yesterday hailed Dwight Yorke as one of the greatest strikers he had ever played against as Manchester United's record signing revealed that he had never doubted his ability to succeed at "Id Trafford.

As he did so possibly the world's best striker issued a warning to Alex Ferguson's side ahead of next week's secand leg of their Champions' League quarter-final tie with internazionale. Ronaldo announced to the Italian Press

BY MARK BRADLEY

turning from a long period on the sidelines.

Yorke took his tally for the season to 26 goals and United's to 100 in all competitions by matching his double strike against Inter Milan with two against Chelsea on Wednesday night that set up an FA Cup semi-final against Arsenal at Villa Park. Since moving from Aston Villa last summer for

only the Premiership but also-put him in the greatest cate-Europe to prove one of Alex Ferguson's shrewdest acquisitions. The United manager be-

lieves that Yorke is the favourite for the coveted player of the season award and Zola, and his team-mate Roberto Di Matteo, were just as effusive in their possibly more subjective praise. Zola, voted player of the year in his first season in England, has lit up Serie A and the world stage for Italy and clearly recognises immense talent when he sees it.

gory. He's doing very well this season and has completed his game. Above all, he is in complete symphony with his team. that's a point which makes him

For it is not just Yorke's goalscoring prowess, exemplified by his sublime 20-yard chip to secure victory at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday night, but his all-round game which impresses Zola, After losing the services of Eric Cantona, The former Italian interna-United have discovered a new tional said: "He's great, I would

very effective."

but also to gel their many other him half a chance and he creative forces.

"Im really impressed at the way he is playing. Apart from the goals, he is playing very well as he holds the ball at the right moment and allows the team to get up. He is very effective for his team," Zola said,

Di Matteo, an Italian incertainly one of the top strikers I've seen and I've seen some good strikers in my time. He's in great shape and is making the difference at the moment

scores, even when they're not playing well - and that's vital."

Yorke has taken the best part of 10 years to become an overnight success with the full range of his talents only now being fully recognised and appreciated following his move to Old Trafford. Some doubted ternational, added: "He's Ferguson's wisdom in spending so much on him but Yorke never once doubted his ability

to perform at the highest level. With his ready smile as wide as ever, the striker is relishing talent not only to inspire them for Manchester United. Give the chance to play on the biggest

his international career with Cup semi-finais, But as Inter from Ronaldo Trinidad and Tobago means that he seems unlikely ever to awaits. He returned to action for grace the World Cup finals. "If

have come here but I'm de-

lighted with the way things have

The treble is now looking

less of an impossible dream as

United stand top of the Pre-

miership, are 2-0 up from the

first leg of their Champions'

League quarter-final against

turned out," he said.

30 minutes of an Italian Cup I didn't think I could handle such semi-final, second leg at Parma a daunting prospect as going to on Tuesday and said: "I feel great and am very happy to have Manchester United I wouldn't made it back into the team." He anticipates playing at

least part of the game against United. "This team needs me and my goal now is to play in the derby and against Manchester United," he was quoted as saying in the daily Corriere della

## Derby hope **Borbokis will** face Liverpool

DERBY COUNTY expect to tie Compensation paid to their forup the signing of Vas Borbokis mer manager, Steve McMahon, from Sheffield United today. The Rams' proposed swoop for the Greek wing-back, with Jonathan Hunt, Robbie Kozhuk and around 2500,000 heading to Bramall Lane, has dragged on since Tuesday. However, talks were continuing last night and the east Midlands club are hopeful the 30 year old will soon be a Derby player.

He needs to sign by noon to miership match with Liverpool at Pride Park, though he may struggle to break into the County line-up after they beat Aston Villa 2-1 on Wednesday. A Derby sman said: "Once we knew that we weren't going to get the player's signature in time for him to play against Aston Villa, the heat was taken out of the situation. Jim Smith is sitting down today finalising everything." United's financial problems

are well documented - they are about £6m in debt - and the sticking point is believed to be whether they can offer the Derby pair sufficient money to get them to drop down a division. Hunt, a midfielder, has already had a spell on loan with United earlier this season, while the England Under-21 wing-back, Kozluk, has been on the fringes of the first team for

overdraft of £1.3m and a lack of sales in the transfer market have been blamed for the club trebling their losses from the previous vear

The chairman, Rikki Hunt, said: "It's the way of the foothalling world today, but we're not in as bad a position as Portsmouth, Oxford and Crystal Palace. The forecast is that be eligible for tomorrow's Pre- we will have similar losses next year because the climate isn't changing. We're losing money because people aren't coming m, our lack of progress in the cups and the fact we can no longer rely on money generated from transfers."

The Swedish striker Martin Dahlin looks to be on his way back to Blackburn. Dahlin ha been on loan at Hamburg SV but the German First Division club said yesterday he would be out of action for up to six weeks because of a back injury. The 30year-old Swede joined Hamburg last October on loan until the end of the season.

Hamburg have an option to sign him but are unlikely to do so as Dahlin has not scored a single goal and has often been left on the substitutes' bench. The Huddersfield chairman,

Malcolm Asquith, will step down from his post at the end The First Division strug- of the season. Ian Ayre, manglers Swindon Town have lost aging director at the McAlpine If An in the last financial year. Stadium, will succeed him.



Britain's Sam Torrance watches his tee shot on the way to scoring 69 - four shots off the lead - in the first round of the Turespana Masters in Malaga yesterday

## James keeps his Ryder distance

MARK JAMES, Europe's Ryder Cup captain, shot a five-underpar 87 in the first round of the BY PHIL CASEY Turespana Masters here yesterday to leave himself in a remarkable 12-way tie for second place. The leader was Switzerland's Paolo Quirici, who equalled the course record with round of a 65.

Quirici held a two-shot lead over a group of players that included Scotland's Gary Orr, Ian Garbutt and Roger Winchester. The 31-year-old, who was once advised to give up the game after it was discovered he is diabetic, shot nine birdies on here over the Parador Del trast to the distinctly hands-on

in Malaga

his way to equalling the course record of 65, set by England's Gary Evans in 1992.

The local favourites also enjoyed a good day. Severiano Ballesteros shot a 71, Jose-Maria Olazabal a 72 and Sergio Garcia a 70. Müguel Angel Jimenez, the defending champion and a local resident,

opened with a 69. For James, the first round

Golf course provided a chance to observe at first hand the form of John Bickerton, one of the outsiders for the 12-man European team to face Amer-

ica in September. However, James insisted he did not ask to be paired with the in-form 29-year-old from Redditch, who finished second in the Portuguese Open last week. James, 45, revealed he could even deliberately avoid certain players who are in contention for a place in the European side to defend the Ryder Cup in Boston. This would be in conapproach adopted by Balles- has recorded two top-10 finteros, his predecessor as captain, before Valderrama in 1997

"I'm not changing any draw the whole year," James said. "I play with one guy or other just by pure chance. I don't want to be found pushing players who are on the edge anyway. They don't need it. If I do ask for something I may go the other way and ask not to be paired with somebody because I don't want to put pressure on them."

did not seem to get to Bickerton, who has made the cut in all seven events so far this year. He

Cup standings. The Challenge Tour graduate continued his rich vein of form here with a first-round 68 but refused to

"I'm not thinking about the Ryder Cup yet," he insisted. "It's a long, long way off but it was good to play with Mark for the first time - he was very good conditions and we had to take

look too far ahead.

slipped by."

be in Europe's Ryder Cup side ishes, and lies 13th in the Ryder is Darren Clarke, although the 30-year-old's indifferent start to the year continued here. Clarke shot a one-over-par 73 and headed straight for the practice ground, where he worked on his swing with Derrick Cooper, who, incidentally, had a hole-in-one on the sixth on his way to a 69.

Clarke, who was playing only his eighth round of the year, company. We had the best of the said: "I made a few stupid errors, missed five greens and Any such pressure certainly advantage of that. It was a it cost me five shots. But I'm d not seem to get to Bicker good effort, but a few chances much happier now after four valuable hours on the practice One player almost certain to ground."

## Farry deal a 'disgrace' say Celtic supporters CELTIC FANS have branded in myjob I would be sacked and

the reported £200,000 pay-out to the sacked Scottish Football Association chief executive, Jim Farry "a disgrace". Farry is believed to be close to agreeing a settlement with his former employers, who sacked him on Monday after he was found guilty of gross misconduct in his handling of Jorge Cadete's transfer to the Premier club. News that Farry is to gain fi-

nancially from his dismissal "Abeen greeted with decision by the secretary of the Affiliation of Registered Celtic Supporters' Clubs, Mick Dinning, who cannot understand why Farry was not removed from Park Gardens without a penny for a "crime" he believes was born more out of incompetence than vindictiveness.

"It is an absolute disgrace if the guy is going to walk away with some cash in his hand, and most of the Celtic fans will think the same," Dinning said. iii If I behaved like he has done

## Don Hutchison

DON HUTCHISON, the Everton midfield player, has two and a is half years left on his present contract. Our report yesterday stating that his contract expires : this immer was incorrect.

that is it. I don't think he had anything particular against Celtic, but he made a mistake, then made it worse by trying to cover it up. Now it seems as though he will profit because the SFA want to keep him quiet." Dinning praised the efforts of

the Celtic chairman, Fergus Mc-Cann, whose unwillingness to let the matter drop finally resulted in Farry being shown the door. McCann claimed that Cadete's absence from vital games towards the end of the 1995-96 season cost the Parkhead club a chance of landing the Scottish League and Cup double. Instead, Celtic lost out to Rangers in both competitions.

"At the time, some fans were annoyed with Fergus because of the length of time it took to sign Cadete, but it now appears that it wasn't his fault," Dinning said. "If he hadn't carried on the fight all this would have been swept under the carpet and the whole thing would have just disappeared. You can't say it cost us anything specific because we lost other games apart from the ones Jorge was missing, but obviously it didn't help."

An SFA spokesman said yes terday: "Despite reports, a settlement has not yet been

## Injury misery for Sidek

MALAYSIA'S WOES deepened at the All England Championships at the National Indoor news for the host country as an Arena, Birmingham, yesterday when their leading player, Rashid Sidek, limped out of the second round.

Sidek was playing Eng-land's Peter Knowles, but he had to abandon the match because of a torn calf muscle at the end of the second game when the scores were level. It was the third set-back for Malaysia following the withdrawals of Ong Ewe Hock and Yong Hock Kin, ranked fifth and sixth in the world

BADMINTON

hour later Colin Haughton overcame Martin Delfs, of Denmark, 15-4, 15-6 to put two English players into the third round of the men's singles for the first time since 1991.

Among those booking thirdround places were the Olympic champion Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen, who beat China's Xia Xuanze 15-11, 15-11, and the second seed Fung Permadi, of Taiwan, who overcame the Indonesian Ronny Agustinus. In the women's tournament, However, it heralded good

China, started her defence with a comfortable 11-2, 11-5 victory over Kara Solmundson.

of Canada.

England are down to the Commonwealth champions Simon Archer and Jo Goode in the mixed doubles. The fifth seeds beat the Danes Janek Roos and Helene Kirkegaard 15-13, 15-5 to set up a confrontation with Kim Dong Moon and Ra Kyung Min, who beat them in the World Grand Prix finals. The South Koreans put out

England's other top pair, Chris Hunt and Donna Kellogg, in the holder, Ye Zhaoying, of the second round.

SPORTING DIGEST

#### TODAY'S NUMBER

players allegedly attacked by police at a Brazilian football game. Officers mistook a Vasco

hurt going to his aid.

## THE HEAD of the Florida state

The number of

player for a pitch invader and his team-mates were

## Florida scandal

athletic commission has been fired for taking \$100,000 (approximately £64,000) from Don King and then trying to influence the rest of the regulatory board to help the boxing pro-

> Governor Jeb Bush removed Morris "Mike" Scionti after Florida's inspector general determined there was a conflict of Guggino told investigators that Scionti approached King and other promoters asking for help with a foundation that purport-

BOXING as their education, King's \$100,000 gift was the only donation to the foundation, the re-

port said. The inspector

general's report also found that

more than half the money went to the foundation's director. After the donation, Scionti advocated to the athletic commission that it reverse its policy interest. Commissioner Jack of excluding long-term contracts between promoters and fighters, a change King sought, the report said.

Scionti "committed impropedly would help boxers pay for er and or unethical acts", Bush

## FIXTURES

Aristol Rovers v Fulham (7.45)... UEPA UNDER-18 OLDULFYING CHAMPIONSHIP England v Israel (4.30) (of Roca, 5p)

UNESCRED LEAGUE Premier Disklose Em UMESONE LEPHANCE PLANCE Planc Divisions
Simpleone public LEAGUE Planc Divisions
Limewody Utst v Dungannon Swifts.
FRI HARRY LAGRER MATTONIAL LEAGUE
Prumber Divisions St Particks Athlesic v Bo-THE TIMES IN YOUTH CUP FIRE rounds

RUGBY LEAGUE Oligem v Barrow (7.45) .....

BASKETBALL Newcastle (7,30).

OTHER SPORTS INCOMETION: All England Champion of ANA, Birminghoun). CALLYING: Vouchall Raily of Wales. BADMINTON

BASKETBALL NESA: Charlonce 105 Boston 87; Milwaukee 87 New York, 86; Minnesora 85 Seattle 84; CHicago 103 New Jersey 87; Pricenti 103 Date les 91; Housen 84 Derwer 75; Unit 80 Clea-land 75; Portland 103 Sacramento 98; Golden Sace 92 Vencouser 82; LA Likers 103 LA Cap-pers 99.

BIATHLON BORLD CHARMFORSHIPS (Oaks, Nor) Stomer's 15km includinal race: 1 O zubrikou (Nor) 45min 28,15er 2 C Nilogret (17) 4-203.9; 3 A Akharona (Rus) 3:13.6; 4 O Petrosa (Nor) 3:42.1; 5 A Volkona (Rus) 4:19.1; 6 M Foroberg (Sher) 4:23.5; 7 O Romasko (Rus) 4:33.5; 8 S Faramagaina (Bele) 4:40.7; 9 U Dici (Ger) 4:44.8; 16 F Datos-ka (Bus) 4:46.9.

Scotland continued the defence of their Home International Indoor Championship in Bournemouth yesterday with a comfortable 145-100 win over Ireland.

THE CRECIPITER INTERNATIONAL TEST MATCH INTERIOR: 1 Australia 70ps; 2 South Africa 66; 3 Polisson 47; #4 Srt Lanta 46; India 46; 50 West India 43; 7 England 41; 8 New Zesland 33; 9 Zimbalowe 76.

Harvey 77: J Angel 5-64) Western Australia 0-0: (Adelaide): Queenstand 239 (M Hay-der 77: PWilson 5-68) Souch Australia 19-1; (Hobart): Tesmania 266 for 8 (J Cox 128) New South Wales.

CYCLING

PARTS-BACE PARTS strape (1871on Prom Casset to Firming): 1 5 Botero (Col) Airu Almin Sibect 2 M Boogerd (Nerh) Same (mr.; 3 M Wasters (Ber) + 29sc; 4 M den Sakker (Nerh) s.5 6 Figueras (id) s. Othersis 66 C Boordman (SB) 15:30 Poerrall szasudinge: 1 Boogerd 20tr 27mlo 28se; 2 A Tchmir (SB) + 16se; 3 Mauners 0:24; 4 Baker 0:25; 5 A Merclo (Be) 0:29, Others: 55 Boordman 25:33.

Huddersfield have signed Kevin Dearden, the Brentford goalkeeper, on a free transfer as cover for Nico

Valescri.
Valesc

Langus First Division: Molescy O Carvey Is-land O. Dr Martness Langus Middand District Newport (Gwerd) 2 Pager Rangers 1; Softmat Borro S Balenal 3: VS Rughy 3 Recing (Ab Wer-vick) 1. Unificant Langus Cap Third round, Huginal 1 Affreton C. Winstendand Neue Languse Pressive Distriction Coty Wenderers 2 Croxicentili 2. John O'Hara Langus Cap serul-flush Burgers Hill 4 Septouring Roam 1. Screentila Divisio: Langus Pressive Distriction Crockersilii 2. John CYflara Langus Cup gemi-flandi Burgers Hill 4 Esetbournis Tourn 1. Scruwffe Diwacz Langus Pransiler Biolofon 1. Scruwffe Diwacz Langus Pransiler Biolofone Yeowi TR 1 Brifiquater O. Merchann Counting East Leagus Pransiler Divisione Counting East Leagus Pransiler Divisione Counting Counting Sami-fland Brate Leg: Counts Sports O East-leigh O. Jameson Empayer Leagus Cup John Langus Pransiler Divisione Transiler Divisione Sownaffert S. Sudbury Wander Divisione Transiler Divisione Langus Counting Counting

Britain's lain Pyman took the lead after the first round of the Kenya Open yesterday with three birdies and an eagle in a 6-under par 65.

Open yesterday with three birdles and an eagle in a 6-under par 65. TUSRER RENYA OPEN Landing Birst round scores (68 er let uslage standil): 65 ! Pyman, J Alee (Swe). 66 M Lafeber (Neth). C Larrain (Nen). R Byraud (Fr). 67 L Alexandre (Fr). C Van der Vede (Nech). J Kondo (Ken). J Skold (Swe). G Hutcheon. 68 E Andersoon (Swe). R Bain. A Barnett. A Butterfield, E Carlberg (Swe). S Daniels (SA). B Dredge, M Eliasson (Swe). J Hawkissotth, B Lincoh (SA). D Lymn. 5 Mwanyenza (Dai). T Njetsen (Nar). J Okelo (Fen). 69 D Higgins, F Howiey, S Hurd. P Jacobson (Swe). G Pietrobono (II). O Rolann (Non). K Storegard (Des). N Vanhoutegen (Bel). L Westerberg (Swe). T Natical (Bel). N Vanhoutegen (Bel). L Westerberg (Swe). T Natical (Bel). L Westerberg (Swe). T Landing (Brst round scores (66 er bri stakes stabed): 65 P Oulrid (Stat). 67 A Cabera (Arg.) D Borgeogo (Sp). R Winchester. M James. C Hanell (Swe). F Jacobson (Swe). F Lindgren (Swe). T Lindgren (Swe). D Swe). T Lindgren (Swe). T Lindgren (Swe). D Swe). T Lindgren (Swe). D Swe). T Lindgren (Swe). D Cooper P Broadhure. D Gallord. M Starla (E). M Farry (Fr). MA Jintener (Sp). M Pakington, S Webser, M Florical (k.), I Sme (Sp). T Store, 79 E Darcy, P Lintart (Sp). G Novquist (Lis). M Hallberg (Swe). J Soos (Sp). C Roc-

ca (u), "5 Garcia (Sp), J Mellor, RM Singh (Ind), M Lanner (Swe), A Bhraghi (R), C Roddies (Sp), M Mantz (Nhen), A Wali, JM Canizares (Sp), 5 Field, R Bosat, R Goosen (SA), V Casado (Sp), C Hainfer (US), R Karisson (Swe), R Cop-man, A Rahr

outside-the-ring expenses such

ICE ROCKEY NHL: Boston 2 Florida O; Colorado 3 Wash-ington 2 (ot); New York Islanders 2 Philade phila 2 (ot): New Jersey 3 Pitsburgh 2: foronto 6 Tampa Bay 1; Calgary 7 St Louis 4; Los Angeles 4 Detroit 2; San Jose 4 Phoenia 2;

RUGBY UNION Scotland Under-18s made a winning start to their three-match tour of Spain yesterday, beating Spain Under-20 30-8 in Madrid,

Deborah Compagnori, the triple Olympic champion from Italy, has called a press conference for tomorrow where she is expected to MORLD CUP (Sherra Neenda, Sp)
Men'a super-G: T C Mayer (Aur) 1mm
28.71 sec; 2 A Schil/terer (Aur) 1:29.06; 3
15cobi (Aur) 1:29.55; A L Xha (Nov)
1:29.54; 5 5 Locher (Swit) 1:29.79; 6 F
Nyberg (Swit) 1:29.58; 7 H Maler (Aur)
1:29.95; 8 J Kobbar (Sto) 1:29.97; 9 B Raich

(Aut) 1:30.15: 10 F Strobi (Aut) 1:30.28 Scandings: 1 Maier 516ps: 2 S Eberharter (Aut) 330: 3 Schifferer 262: 4 Mayer 252: SH Knauss (Aut) 233: 6 R Salzgeber (Aut) 212, 7 Kyst 208: 8 Strobi 178; 9 K A Aamodt (Abr) 167. TABLE TENNIS

ENGLISH OPEN (Potturs Loisure Can-tre, Great Varmouth) Men's singlest qual-liying round second stages 1. Heischer (Ger) bit G Herbert (Eng) 21-17 21-11. Women's singles second stages N Deston (Eng) bit Meyerholer (Ger) 18-21 22-20 21-15.

TE N N 1 S

NEINSWEEK CHAMPRONS CUP (Indian Wells, Calif) Meris singles second round: M Ros. (Chie) by C Pokine (Fr) 7-6 6-1. K Malisse (Beel) to G natiserie (Fox) 7-6 6-3. K Kucera (Siorak) bt L Hewity (Aus) 7-5 6-3. I Siemerink (Neth) bt P Metigeril (Br) 6-4-2-6 5-4. C Woodurff (US) bt P Haarimus (Neth) 7-6 6-3; M Salin (Rus) bt J Gimetstob (US) 6-7 6-6. F Mandilla (Sp) bt P Sampras (US) 6-7 6-6-4; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt J Courier (US) 7-6 6-4; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt A Correction (Sp) 6-2 3-6; F. G Renedisk (GIS) bt S Draper (Aus) 6-3 6-3; R Krajkek, (Meris) bt J California (Sp) 6-3 6-6; F. F. Frajkek, (Meris) bt J-Gambia (US) 6-7 7-5 7-5; F. S FAR Riveret Cup (Hardan Wells). California (Line) and Carlos (US) 6-7 7-5 7-5.

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HOLYFIELD PREACHES VICTORY P26 ● CABANNES SHOWN THE DOOR P29

# Stone rolls Villa's way for £5.5m

JOHN GREGORY took his transfer outlay towards the £30m mark in barely 12 months as Aston Villa manager last night when he paid Nottingham Forest £5.5m for Steve Stone.

But Gregory's interest in further bolstering his midfield with George Boateng's combative talents has led to Coventry City reporting Villa to the Football Association for allegedly making an illegal ap-proach to the Dutchman via his former team-mate Dion Dublin.

After concluding the Stone deal, the Villa manager said: "I'm delighted to have got Steve for our last 10 games, and I FOOTBALL

BY PHIL SHAW

can play in any position across the middle. It's a situation we've monitored for a long time and I thought me might have to wait until the sum-

Stone, who won nine England caps during Terry Venables' reign, has exchanged seemingly certain relegation with Forest for Villa's attempt to halt a run of one point from six matches, which has taken them from the Premiership summit to fifth place. He spent hope he's going to help to turn 12 years in the east Midlands our season round. He's quick, after arriving as a teenager during his final appearance in Wednesday's defeat by New-Villa originally tried to offload

Stan Collymore to Forest in part-exchange for Stone, but the controversial striker, who is under treatment for clinical depression, would not return to the City Ground. The 27-yearold Stone, whose contract with Villa takes him through to the summer of 2003, follows Dublin (£5.75m), Paul Merson (£6.75m), Alan Thompson (£4.5m) and Steve Watson (£4.2m) - the latter duo being fellow Geordies - as the major signings since Gregory arrived

Gregory, who recouped £12.6m in one transfer alone ment on claims by the Coven- ing Boateng stolen from us or

in February last year.

Manchester United, has seen his lack of squad depth exposed by injuries and illness during Villa's recent poor run of form. A £4.5m offer for Alan Stubbs was turned down by Celtic,

while he has not followed up his

interest in Bradford's Robbie

Blake with a bid.

Villa were, however, successful in landing Cardiff's Mark Delaney for £500,000 this week. While the rookie right back will not be risked against David Ginola at Tottenham tomorrow, Stone will make his debut as Gregory seeks to ensure that his team do not miss out on a Uefa Cup place.

disregard for FA rules and we intend to pursue the matter Gregory refused to commost vigorously. I am not hav-

clear evidence of an illegal

approach to Boateng and his

nt on behalf of John Gregory

to Villa Park.

when Dwight Yorke defected to try chairman, Bryan Richard- unsettled by any other club." son, that Dublin, the Sky Blues' Coventry contend that only former captain, may have been after Villa's alleged approach did Gregory contact his oppoused to sound out the 23m-rated site number, Gordon Strachan, Boateng about a possible move who told him Boateng was not for sale. The Villa chairman, Richardson said: "We have Doug Ellis, is then said to have

phoned Richardson with an

offer, which was also rejected,

excellent" in training and would

play in the home game against Blackburn tomorrow.

and Villa were warned not to and Aston Villa. We have reported Villa to the FA and the contact either the player or Premier League for a clear his advisor. Strachan said Villa's interest breach of all the rules, and a had turned Boateng, a £250,000 clearly illegal approach to the player with a view to unsettling capture from Feyenoord, from "a very happy young man" to one who was "confused". But he said he had been "absolutely him - which they have. "Villa have shown a total

keeper Mark Bosnich last night told how Stan Collymore's Aston Villa team-mates were kept in the dark over the troubled striker's off-field problems. Collymore's depression, which has been treated at a clinic, came to light when Villa played Fulham in a fourth BSkyB should know by April

round FA Cup tie in January. Bosnich said the players asked for information about Collymore's problems – "but it

was not forthcoming." "He [Collymore] could have told us and he wanted to talk to us, but he was under instructions not to. He told us all he has a certain problem and he didn't want to discuss it further and that was the end of the matter.

Meanwhile, Vilia's goal- The boys on the whole appre-eper Mark Bosnich last night ciated that," Bosnich said.

Collymore's off-field problems have coincided with a dramatic slump in form for Villa who have declined from championship hopefuls to fifth place having taken one point from 18.

13 if they can take over Manchester United. That is the latest date by which the Department of Trade and Innopolies and Mergers Commission investigation the takeover. The MMC will submit their conclusions to the DTI today, which then has 20 working days to publish the report. Stone sheds troubles, page 30

## Fowler writes to Le Saux

ROBBIE FOWLER has released By MARK PIERSON the contents of a "private" letter written to Graeme Le Saux Footballers' Association, had aimed at ending the rumbling dispute over their running feud when Liverpool visited Stam-

ford Bridge on 27 February. Le Saux was caught by television elbowing Fowler in the back of the head following an angry confrontation between the pair. during which the Liverpool striker made offensive gestures towards his England colleague. The Football Association has since charged both players with misconduct.

Fowler has been condemned for his actions, and yesterday sought to defuse the situation by issuing a copy of a letter from him that was delivered to Stamford Bridge earlier in the day. However, under clear legal advice he has been careful not to admit to wrong-doing and again uses the term "misintermade the same claim in a statement last Friday after receiving Le Saux's letter of apology.

Le Saux sent his letter to Fowler, and the contents of that have not been made public. Now Fowler clearly wants his version of the incident out in the open before the FA hearing, and he released it through his solicitor, Kevin Dooley.

Graham Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional

expressed his wish to see a more extensive response from Fowler than he produced last Friday after Le Saux's public apology and his own private letter to the England striker.

Le Saux's advisors had said they wanted to scrutinise the contents of any letter of apology from Fowler before giving it their seal of approval.

Fowler's letter, beginning "Dear Graeme" and addressed to Le Saux, c/o Chelsea FC. Stamford Bridge, Fulham Road, Chelsea, London, said:

"I am in receipt of your without prejudice letter about what occurred on Saturday, 27 February at Stamford Bridge.

"I am sorry if you misinterpreted my actions during the game, which were not meant to cause any offence to yourself or preted" in the letter, having anyone else. Hopefully this unhappy incident can now be

"I am sure you share my hope that when we play together again either on opposite sides or on international duty people have no reason to judge us other than on our footballing

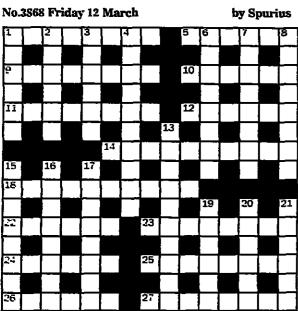
Best wishes.



defensive, page 30 🕴 Pete Sampras hits a backhand return during his second-round defeat by the Spaniard Felix Mantilla in the Newsweek Champions Cup in Indian Wells

Allsport

#### THE FRIDAY CROSSWORD



ACROSS Fly home by way of Luxembourg in the dark? Absolutely! (3-5) No time for articles

about desert plants or tropical shrub (6) As morgues, perhaps. itially eery? (8) 10 Old woman sitting between pupils in exam (1-5)

11 Subjects identified by some of the Belgian people (8)

12 Worry about queen's trained polecat (6) 14 Lump in throat from taking another look at

Papa's medal (5,5) 18 Vehicle trundling along the Strand (5.5) 22 Big drink causing tippler

Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford

well that the same in the

no way out (3-2-3) to lose heart, maybe? (6) 7 Lots of whitewash 23 Stolen biscuits originally seen in picture (8) 24 Hard to get into dirty vessels (5-3) Time a musician craft (6)

25 Structural support for chaps invading a grouse- 13 shooter's place (8) 26 Means of transport giving school pupil an advantage (6)

27 Fresh representation of English river in coloured frame? (4-4)

Manipulate and stir broken leg (6) Rug for the top storey (6) French article about being a tenant (6) I end up unexpectedly in

committee producing

Regulered to a presipaper with the Post (1984)

book of useful hints (10) Accused left in a pickle deliveries in small open

will be about to appear nervous (8) Description of something you fancy? (10)

Drops of water (3-5) Inconsistency in vocal rendition within confines of Venetian church (8) No half measures - ogle husband shamelessly after finding out how (5,3) 19 Being unenthusiastic, in

a way, and starting to Hearty shout will engage attention mostly (6) Way to confront an unruly adolescent, it's

Serving being crucial to both Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL, and printed at Mirror Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01988

## Henman fends off Rusedski

Although Henman contin-

ued to search for consistency on

his first serve, Rusedski was un-

able to punish him as much as

set. Indeed, not a single ace

came from Rusedski's racket

during the opening period, in

which he double-faulted three

Rusedski managed to save

two break points at 3-3, but was

ninth game. The umpire over-

hand volley to the corner was

called out on the first set point,

Henman a second opportunity

imes.

41 minutes.

TIM HENMAN recorded his fourth victory in six encounters with his fellow Briton when he beat Greg Rusedski 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 in the quarter-finals of the Champions Cup here yesterday.

It was not exactly pistols at dawn, but Britain's top two seemed a lonely pair as the match began on a chilly, cloudy, desert morning, with spectators still drifting into the Centre Court. So intense was the concentration on both sides of the net, however, that Henman and Rusedski probably would have been oblivious even if the stands had been packed.

Their rivalry has raised British interest in the sport so much in the past four years that it was hard to imagine that this was only their sixth meeting. Two of the previous encounters were purely domestic affairs, with Henman defeating the Canadian-born Rusedski in the final of the National Championships at Telford in 1995 and

Henman, the world No 7, would also argue that he was unable to match Rusedski's ruled when Rusedski's backspirit in their last match, in the concluding round robin of at the ATP Tour Championship in Hanover last November, because he had already qualified to play the Spaniard Carlos Moya in the semi-finals. Rusedski, a substitute at the feast, eagerly accepted a straight-sets win worth enough points to enable him to end the season in

out the eventual winner players, it was interesting yes-

be facing in either the semi-final or the final is Pete Sampras, BY DERRICK WHYTE who lost here on Wednesday in Indian Wells, California night to the Spaniard, Felix Mantilla. The American terday to see who would settle shrugged off the threat to his into a smooth rhythm first. It world No 1 ranking, but he proved to be neither. Rusedski could not shrug off another

was broken in the opening early exit in this tournament. game, after Henman's mishit "I'm going to take this hard," backhand found a line on the Sampras said after a three-set second break point, and Ruseddefeat in the second round. "I ski capitalised on his oppodon't like losing and playing the nent's loose first serve in the way I did tonight." second game. Henman did not Sampras made 54 unforced produce a first serve until trailing 0-40. He won the next point, but then hit a backhand long.

errors, including a double fault on match point. He blamed a lack of matches this year, but was quick to say that was not enough of an excuse. "It's not the way I wanted to play here." he said. "I really felt this was a he would have hoped in the first good year for me to do well," Sampras was playing in just

his third tournament of the year, after missing the Australian hard court season. He played at San Jose in February, but withdrew before his semifinal match with a leg injury sufunable to deny Henman in the fered in the quarter-finals, Last week in Scottsdale, he won one match and lost in the second round to Jan-Michael Gambill "Not having played many at 30-40. A double-fault gave matches this year, you can't just try to find your form," he said.

and the Oxford man's return of Two unseeded Americans, serve caused Rusedski to dump Chanda Rubin and Serena a half volley into the net after Williams, played giant-killers at the Evert Cup, the women's Rusedski won the second set tournament being staged here with surprising ease, 6-2, but the alongside the men's event. deciding set proved to be a close Rubin beat the top seed and deencounter before Henman ran fending champion, Martina

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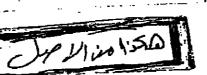
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Hingis, 6-3 7-6, while Williams One player Henman will not beat Mary Pierce 7-5 7-6. Freepost AFI1239. Manchester M18DJ



# DAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

Dismiss him, if you must, as unkempt, uncouth and resolutely uncool. Insist, if you like, that his music should remain unplugged. But give the man his due: he outlived punk, survived Paula and has now pocketed millions from Planet 24...



# all is forgiven

y Not Be reelance rnalist?

Est that the

April 1985 Commence of the com

up in Indian Wells

THE INDEPENDENT

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Stone sheds troubles, p

he British, it is said, are a nation of begradgers. Nothing breeds resentment in our hearts so much as the success of one of our peers. And nothing gives us sneaky, shameful pleasure more than the stumble of a big figure. Bob Geldof, I tispect, gives the lie to this. But then the shambling, unkempt character who has just, at last, managed to make himself a multimillionaire with the £5m he will get from the sale of his share of the TV company Planet 24, has always managed to fail quite to fit any of the moulds into which people have attempted to cram him.

He was always too intelligent to be a visceral punk rocker, too reluctant a campaigner to commit his life to the Third World, too undisciplined and free-thinking to be a politician, too chaotic to run the businesses he launched, too much of a butterfly to finish making the film he scripted when it ran into funding problems, and too raw and restricted musically to make the transition to pop superstar, which is the only thing he would really like to have been. But in all these limitations lie his strengths

Bob Geldof is the model of the flawed postmodern hero. Like Diana, Princess of Wales, he is a blundering mixture of vulnerability and selfabsorption - caught on the tide of change, victire of the ephemerality of pop music and shot

the sugh with the pain of a messy divorce.

In the old days the ultimate test of someone's character was, they said, to ask: "Is this a man you'd be happy to go into the jungle with?" Bob is not the kind of man, on first consideration, that you would want to meet there. I can't speak at first hand about the jungle, but I have been across the desert with him - from the vast, shifting reaches of the sands around Timbuctoo and the arid uplands of the Abyssinian high plateau when, soon after Live Aid smashed all records for international fundraising, we journeyed through the Sahel to decide how and where the Band Aid millions should be spent.

He shambled across Africa, from the west coast to the east, inappropriately dressed and shod, developing headaches from dehydration merely that he gave over to Live Aid more than (he took no hat, and wouldn't drink enough water) and a septic toe - an injury he made worse by a penny. Nor that, in that time, he insisted on peculiar presence hovered. Geldof was infatu-

practicalities of life in the rough, you could not have hoped for a better person with whom to be enjungled. Everywhere he went he raised the morale of the local people and aid workers and, by his unique combination of ill-tempered impatience and a disarming charm, somehow always got others to do the things he would have been so incapable of doing himself.

It is a measure of the preposterousness of his achievement that a figure who was, in his early career, accorded the unheroic status of pop's uncouthest loud-mouth was to be dubbed by the nation both a Sir and a saint - after having been borne shoulder-high by no lesser figures than Paul McCartney and Pete Townshend across the Wembley stage before the biggest audience the world had ever seen.

The incongruity was constant. When we arrived at the palace of the head of state in Sudan, the president stepped forward to present the medal and sash of the Order of the Two Niles. one in the party wearing a suit, albeit one of the recorder for hour after hour, and with me

Chad. And yet, for all his incompetence at the the whopping home phone bill that resulted, re- haviour which his friends found cause for confusing even to pay for a cup of coffee out of Band Aid funds. In modern usage, a saint has to be an all-round holy character. But, by the definition of the Church that makes them, a saint is defined by "heroic virtue" - some massive quality which, as time passes, blots out the memory of his or her human frailty and turns the person into a symbol of some overpowering

goodness. Perhaps Bob may qualify one day. But it is key to his character, too, that, where others might have turned themselves into fulltime advocates for the Third World after Live Aid. seeking a role with Unicef or some such, Geldof decided that he had done enough. It was some-

one else's turn. He wanted to go back to music. Yet he was shrewd enough - when a publisher friend asked how much he might make from cutting a record - to switch tack. Around a quarter of a million, with a bit of luck, Geldof had responded, only to be told that he could make double that from his autobiography. We sat down But he tried to pin it on me, since I was the only to write it, with Geldof talking into my tape-

### BY PAUL VALLELY

tropical variety. He could not believe his eyes when I declined and directed him to the wildhaired, unshaven figure at my side, resplendent in a wrongly buttoned, never-ironed white shirt, torn black jeans, and shoes resembling those worn by tramps in Ealing comedies. Geldof was never quite what people expected. In a world of icons, he was disconcertingly real.

It was this, of course, which was his greatest strength. It was what enabled him, as he put it, "to make compassion hip". The very quality that earned him notoriety as a loud-mouth was what also enabled him to hold his own against prime minister Thatcher - becoming on camera, to the delight of the nation, the only person ever to contradict the Iron Lady twice, to her face, in public. And he did so with evident intelligence behind the passion and aggression.

from a modern saint. By which I don't mean not like that," he said, of sections which many two years of his life, during which he didn't earn by promptu self-surgery in a filthy hotel in paying from his rapidly depleting bank account

shaping the resulting conversations into a book. It was a revealing process, as much for what got left out as for what went in. On the tapes he was ruthlessly frank. He spoke with particular vituperation about his father, whose job as a trav-: elling salesman had forced him to leave Geldof and his two older sisters alone much of the time, after the death of their mother before the boy was 10. But he insisted I should talk to his relatives to check his recall. "Don't let him be too hard on his father, it will break his dad's heart," I was told by his Aunt Fift, after whom Geldof named his eldest child. "No, he was a bastard, put it all in," said the angry young man. I ignored him and toned it down. Interestingly, when he read even that, he toned it down further

He self-censored other sections of my manuscript which he thought might upset his wife, Geldof became just what we ought to expect Paula. "Better not put that bit in. Paula might spouses would have considered innocuous. Throughout the months we were writing, Paula's atedly in love with her. He found endearing be-

cern. She engaged, in my presence, in wild fantastical role playing for weeks on end acting the role of a perfect Fifties mother from Enid Blyton, then becoming a thumb-sucking Take That fan, sitting all day on the sofa, singing along to

the band's videos and refusing to speak.

Her behaviour became increasingly odd in the run-up to her affair with the INXS singer Michael Hutchence, culminating in a divorce petition which contained claims that hurt Bob deeply. He said nothing in public, and maintained that dignified silence even after Hutchence's suicide and a series of wild statements that were made about the dead man's final phone call - to Geldof - shortly before he hanged himself in an Australian hotel room. Geldof has not behaved perfectly, but he has behaved as well as most of us could have hoped to in such a messy situation. He keeps trying. He moves on.

Like most of us, however - and unlike many in the ranks of millionaire businessmen he has now joined - he moves existentially from one thing to another without any great plan. Just as he lannched the Boomtown Rats in the Seventies because he did not like much of the music he heard on the radio, he launched Planet 24 in 1992 because he didn't like the laced-up style of most of the TV programmes he was watching. (Though he was canny enough to do so by merging his company, Planet Pictures, with 24 Hour productions, run by Charlie Parsons and Waheed Alli who, between them, combined creative and business acumen to match Geldof's talent for spinning off ideas he did not have the stamina to carry through.) So now he is talking of launching an Internet holiday company, not out of some shrewd business sense, but simply because he couldn't find one last year when he wanted to take his kids on holiday to Florida. The secret of his success lies chiefly in his hunch that what he wants, others will want too.

The hunch is not infallible. Doubtless he will also return to the recording studio to make yet another attempt to reinvent himself as a pop musician, in the way his heroes such as Eiton John and Phil Collins constantly do. For Bob Geldof, the last thing is never enough. He always keeps asking the question we used for the title of his book: Is That It? It's a question we all ask, which is why, I suspect, in this age of uncertainty, Geldof remains our stubbled Everyman.

## GARNET POINT



From the edge of the New World. a new, dry, spicy full-bodied red.

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#### **Budget motoring**

Sir: At last, road tax banding according to engine size, but why stop at one band? Surely at least four bands would be more appropriate, with a sharp rise for those who like to feel four litres or more under their bonnets.

I would also recommend to the Chancellor a special high-rate selfishness band for those fourwheel-drive owners registered to city addresses. Their cars not only emit their exhaust fumes at a height which is more readily breathed in by pedestrians, but also obscure the vision of all those car drivers who are stuck behind them.

KITTY R STARKIE Ulverston, Cumbria

Sir: As I fill up with petrol at £3.50 a gallon in the Highlands of Scotland, who do I complain to? It is only £1.80 a gallon in Greece, £1 a gallon in Canada, and 65p a gallon in the USA.

The latest fuel tax rise in the Budget is a disgrace. It penalises every rural resident and business, rich and poor, who rely on motor transport. No doubt increased fuel transport costs will be cited as a reason the next time the petrol companies put the prices up. HAMISH MITCHELL Crovie, Banffshire

Sir, In a country which offers its wealth-creators a derisory minimum wage at under £4 per hour and in which companies stoop so low as to offer as little as £10,000 for a full time job in far too many sectors, you do not make more people use public transport by making car use more expensive, but by making the already far too expensive public transport much cheaper. MICHAEL WRIST Ely, Cambridgeshire

#### Ritalin children

Sir: I read with interest the review of Richard DeGrandpre's Ritalin Nation (5 March). As an educator I am aware that there appear to be children whose behaviour is problematical to their parents, their schools and themselves and for which there appears to be no extraneous reason, such as stressful life events or unwise child-rearing practices. Some such children do appear to be helped by Ritalin and it can indeed, in some cases, effect a radical change within a short time.

Of grave concern to many teachers however is that Ritalin may be being prescribed much too freely and without sufficient followup. Some children have led lives so full of events which are stressful or painful to them and so lacking in parental care and control that it would be strange if their behaviour were not affected: Ritalin will not solve their problems.

Doctors may need to be aware that there are parents who take a cavalier attitude to medication and cheerfully double the recommended dosage if the child seems to be getting difficult, and sometimes advise the school to do the same. Some even use the medication as a pick-me-up for themselves.

It is also worth mentioning that the parents of children who are diagnosed as having attention deficit hyperactivity disorder are entitled to an attendance allowance. which could also provide motivation for seeking such a diagnosis. SUZANNĚ TIBURTIUS Canterbury

#### Nowhere to roam

Sir: Most of us live miles away from the areas of heath, moor or downland which are the subject of the Government's "right to roam" proposals. Yet more and more of us want to go for a country walk.

In lowland areas of intensive farming, rights of way often run right across what is now featureless arable land, stripped of hedges and trees and unsuitable for any sort of recreational use. These rights of way are a nuisance

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



National Orchestra Week No 5: Members of the City of London Sinfonia play at Liverpool Street station in this series of events sponsored by BT David Rose

to the farmer and not much fun for the walker - particularly where farmers repeatedly remove waymarks and refuse to mark the path after ploughing and sowing. These archaic footpaths should

be rerouted to reflect contemporary needs. Given the popularity of walking, new footpaths should be created too. Of course the machinery exists, at local level through the parish council, but the problem seems to be just that: at local level in rural England power still usually remains vested in the landowners.

Lowland farmers might be keen to divert walkers away from the middle of arable land, but they certainly don't want to divert them on to their own amenity land ~ shooting terrain: pheasants and partridge or wildfowling land along the edge of rivers. The high cost of a gun is quite a spur when it comes to lobbying to keep the walker out of woods and pleasant meadow grassland; there is an even greater cost if they happen to shoot a rambler instead of a

These matters need addressing. Lowland walkers are still stuck. KATE RHODES

Sir: Christopher Luke (letter, 10 March) complains that people using a right of way in Abergavenny walk past his front door and thus invade his privacy.

I suggest he gets out a bit more; not only do people walk past my front door, they also have the temerity to drive their cars, vans and lorries past it as well! This right of way is known as a road; there are quite a few of them in our towns and cities. MARK BLACKMAN London SE14

Sir: Christopher Luke complains, understandably, about the nuisance he endures because of the footpath which passes through his property. It is easy to sympathise with him and his family, as one also will with people who live near a motorway, railway or airport

He has one sure recourse: sell up and move to a place which has none of these nuisances. Of course property near motorways, airports, railways or footpaths is discounted, so he will have to find a little extra cash (which he appears not to be short of). PETER WILSON Barnord Castle, Co Durham

Sir: Your leading article of 9 March claimed that in welcoming the Government's proposals for a statutory right of access to open countryside, I was undergoing some sort of personal conversion.

No conversion was needed. During my time as president of the Country Landowners' Association I worked hard to promote improved access to the countryside - banging home the legal and political realities to landowners, establishing countryside recreation and access groups with local authorities and all the while trying to reduce confrontation. The CLA promoted

access through voluntary arrangements and, as its leader, I represented that view to government as best I could.

From April I have a new, much broader constituency. I am convinced by my experience that a presumption in favour of a right of access on open country is right, and that the package announced by Government will provide essential clarity for all parties. I firmly believe that sensitively implemented, with the safeguards the Government has proposed, access can be successfully integrated with other land uses to everyone's benefit. EWEN CAMERON Chairman Designate

Gloucestershire Sir: In 1968 Alexander Dubcek famously declared that there is more than one way into socialism. Is Tony Blair taking the scenic

ALEX OLIVER Oegstgeest, Netherlands

The Countryside Agency

Cheltenham.

#### Scan the options

Sir: Annabel Ferriman's article "The pregnant pause" (9 March) provides a balanced view of antenatal screening tests. It does. bowever, highlight an important contradictory aspect of such

Unless there is a specific increase in risk of abnormality because of past history, tests in pregnancy are offered as screening for abnormalities. These tests should be explained as such and parents should not be offered, or accept, them as "routine".

Even an early scan to confirm the stage of a pregnancy should only be offered with the proviso that there is a chance of detecting signs which may be associated with foetal abnormalities, even though they are not performed for this reason before 16 weeks in most of the country.

Under these circumstances, parents have the opportunity to accept testing if they understand the implications and want to know the results. Parents seek

#### Gunaecoloau Birmingham

accept testing.

SIMON GRANT

Celebration

Sir. Your leading article of 9 March states that "Commonwealth Day passed off yesterday with few celebrations". In fact, there were celebrations, but they were not widely reported in the print media.

reassurance of normality, which

screening tests imply a possible

need for subsequent diagnostic

intervention, even though most

babies will be normal in the end. If

parents do not wish to run the risk

Senior Registrar in Obstetrics and

abnormality, then they need not

investigations and perhaps

of finding potential signs of

can never be assured. All

Over 2,000 people, 1,000 of them school children from all over the United Kingdom, came to Westminster Abbey to hear the Queen's speech and readings from senior representatives of the world's major faiths. They heard music from Australia and the Caribbean and watched classical Indian Kathak dancing to the

sound of the sitar and tabla. The Royal Commonwealth Society and Commission for Racial Equality sent leaflets encouraging celebrations of Commonwealth Day to local authorities, libraries and every school in the UK. A CD-Rom illustrating the cultural diversity and political and economic importance of the Commonwealth is being distributed free to schools.

The Commonwealth Club just off Trafalgar Square is fast becoming London's premier multicultural meeting place. Fundamental to combating racism is understanding and experiencing other cultures and lifestyles. This is what Commonwealth Day is about. Perhaps, next year, the media, including The Independent, might bother to report it. PETER LUFF Director

Royal Commonwealth Society London WC2

#### Curb on weapons

Sir. Preventing the global spread of weapons of mass destruction is an urgent priority. Today (12 March), MPs can make their contribution by supporting the Nuclear

Safeguards Bill in the Commons. If enacted, this Bill will enable the UK to ratify an additional protocol to its Nuclear Safeguards Agreement of 1976. This will form part of an international process whereby states are asked to give ' International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors increased access to nuclear and nuclear-related facilities.

The inadequacy of existing safeguards was demonstrated by the discovery - only made possible following the Gulf war - of a clandestine nuclear weapons programme in Iraq, despite that country having in place a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the IAEA.

To date, 36 states, including all EU member states, have signed protocols with the IAEA but only five have ratified. Early ratification by the UK would demonstrate this country's willingness to take a lead in global efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Dr STEPHEN PULLINGER Executive Director, International Security Information Service London EC1

#### Feminist logic

Sir: As the instigator of the current "male feminist" debate, I must say that I have considered Adrian Coyle's argument (letter, 8 March) carefully and found it to be completely logical, which leaves me in a dilemma. If I can accept an argument on its logic, I cannot see where one's sex comes into it.

I will go on supporting the feminist cause and try to think of a label for myself other than "critic of gendered power relations" which I assume he lifted from Viz magazine's Modern Parents. Also next time I go to an anti-racist march I will be sure to black myself up. ROBERT G BREW Worthing, West Sussex

Sir: None of the (admittedly few) transsexual women that I know "does" womanliness, any more, presumably, than Adrian Coyle "does" manliness. We are who we are, and we "do" only ourselves.

Nor are transsexuals surgically produced – surgery is merely a means of achieving as much congruence as possible between social role and physiology, and is not available unless that role is well-established RACHAEL PADMAN

## **European family**

Sir: I agree with Norman Paterson in his desire not to see another European War (letter, 10 March). But will closer European

integration further that cause? One of the greatest causes of war in this century has been the collapse of empires or states formed from a collection of culturally diverse nations.

A looser collection of friendly and co-operating states (as we have at present) might give us a better chance of peace in the long term. Rather as members of an extended family keep in touch and help each other out from time to time so might the European Union best operate. A more closely integrated Europe might end up like a kind of permanent family Christmas, which, however much you love your family, I wouldn't wish on anyone. ANDREW BYNG-HALL Teddington, Middlesex

#### Classic error

Sir: Children may not be turning their backs on reading the classics (report, 9 March), simply reinterpreting them. I observed work in a primary school where one seven-year old wrote about her favourite book - Winnie the Pooh, by Walt Disney. HILARY ROBINSON South Milford, North Yorkshire

#### that they never will be. BRIAN MARSHALL content to see among ministers someone who actually knows something about the subject. Linton, Cambridgeshire

(letter, 11 March), would appear to exclude from government anyone who has practical experience and knowledge of the subject of a policy for which they have any responsibility. I am more than **GEOFFREY MYERS** Croydon, Surrey

Sir. Several of the arguments of

Earth, leading to his conclusion

the director of Friends of the

that Lord Sainsbury must go

Sir: Horses know instinctively not to eat ragwort and will not willingly do so because it is poisonous to them. Cattle avoid eating buttercups for the same reason. There are many such examples in the wild. Duff Hart-Davis (Country Matters, 6 March) gives us another, that

IN BRIEF pheasants will not willingly eat genetically modified maize.

Will this information be researched? Let the precautionary principle apply. It is not for us to prove that GM foods may be harmful. It is for Monsanto, Agrevo et al to prove

Sir: The implied threat that unless the British government subsidises BMW to the time of £200m they will take their work elsewhere has to be unacceptable ("BMW tells Longbridge to fight Hungary for car", 10 March). However, it may well be that in the need to preserve jobs the Government will have to give way. If British

taxpayers' money is to be used to support BMW, then BMW should be required to supply its British customers with its products at prices the same as those on the Continent. REGINALD COLLIN Fontmell Magna, Dorset

Sir: Foxhunting is a sport. Should Tony Banks, Minister for Sport, not be treating it with the same enthusiatic and positive vigour that he might treat rugby and boxing, two other sports that he could describe as "unnecessary and barbarous" (You Ask the Questions, 10 March). That he lets his strong personal views hias his approach to his job suggest to me that he should resign PAUL FREEMAN Wotton-under-Edge. Gloucestershire

## In the words of Hamlet's father: 'List, list, O list'

Ten things that are said to be good if strong, or even extra strong Peppermints

Arm tactics Man in a circus Feelings Box Room Language Bow. Drink

Ten subjects introduced into pub quizzes in order to baffle the intellectuals and swots who would otherwise know everything and win every time TV soaps

Pop music TV signature tunes Video games Footballers' nicknames Famous moustaches History of underwear Cartoon characters History of crime

Ten unfortunate ways to open a conversation "I don't know anyone here."

"Haven't we met somewhere before?" "I'm sure I know your face from somewhere...

"You're from Barnsley, aren't "There's someone in Barnsley who is the spitting image of you." "You'd like Barnsley.

"So, what do you think of this Monica Lewinsky business then?" "Did you see the news the other

"Did you see the papers this morning? "What line of business are you

Ten unusual phobias

Agoraphobia - fear of old Greek market places Aguephobia - fear of getting diseases mentioned only by Shakespeare, which no living doctor can

cure any more Agaphobia - fear of being made fun of for having a trendy stove Aggrophobia - fear of being duffed up by football fans Aghaphobia - fear of the leader of a small Ismaili sect

Accraphobia - fear of being beaten up in a lawless African city Agraphobia - fear of being overcharged by an Indian tour opera-



KINGTON Unusual Phobias No 3: Agaphobia – fear of

being made fun of for having a trendy stove Acrephobia - fear of not being able to convert English land values

into hectares

Eigerphobia - fear of falling off snowy heights Agar-agarophobia – fear of any gelatinous substance made from Ten poncy words that people

use as an alternative to 'two' Duo Вгасе

Duet Diptych Brace Coupling Tandem Deuce Twosome

Ten unsatisfying ways to end a conversation "Let's agree to differ, shall we?"

"It's only a game, after all"

"Don't do anything I wouldn't "Good heavens, is that the

"I've fust seen someone over there I really must grab before they "Oh, well, it takes all sorts..."

time?"

"Tve just realised you're not the person I thought you were." "I have just realised you are so pig-headed that I am going to beat you over the head with golf clubs." "We must do lunch."

Ten books never referred to by name, but only by the names of the people who started them Debrett's

Burke's Roget's

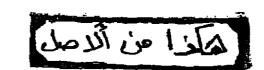
Fowler Pears Brewer's Larousse Webster's

Ten things which are useless by themselves but which we always keep, just in case

A single sock A single glove One Monopoly £5 note An earring Any button

One screw lying innocently on the car floor Fifty-one playing cards One phone number on a loose piece of paper, no name attached

A nearly empty bottle of flat tonic water A single spare shoe lace



## Curb on weapons Sir Preventing the Side of President

THE FRIDAY REVIEW

Residence of under doubles designed thistean laterally Length (15 Worth age) Missing make their contibutes pri applientitio the societame Exterior continue continue in a superior Hermoteri this kill will enabe the LE to satisfy an adminish

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To date, so states, including a Fit the entire states, have signed profession with the IAEA but on the travel training five travel training from the travel training from the travel training from the travel training training travel training training training travel training trai he the UK would demonstrate to extend to a wellingness to take the to tropin offerts to breasmile productation of nuclear weapon Executive Director Internation Secretary intermedian Service Landon Sci-

#### Feminist logic

Sir As the ne tigator of the come "made terminat" debate. I mage Brat I have considered Adran Coch - aremount detter that carefully and found it to be comparely logical, whichless rise in a sidemina li Leanaccept attraction as logic, learning

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All this merely proves, if proof were needed, that Tony Blair has a keen understanding of the powers of Cinsic error patronage. There is nothing remotely disreputable about this. British prime ministers have fewer institutional levers than most of those who elect them realise. The relentless deployment of not-unfriendly Tories in big jobs, such as Lord Wakeham's chairmanship of the Royal Commission on second-stage reform of the House of Lords, to relatively minor ones, such as the announcement in this week's Budget by Gordon Brown that Lord Alexander will be heading an enquiry into shipping tax, is precisely part of how formidably the Prime Minister

> ever-widening arc of support for his national project. One of the appointments which the Prime Minister now has to ponder in the next few months is that of an EU

PRINCES ARE not what they of the former empire to the were in centuries gone by nor simple condensation.

Why has he come? What atti- fashion world.

tude should we take to the Pagina12, Argentina

opportunity for important sym-

Prince? These questions have

sponses. They have ranged

does the British crown repre- lish pirate". At this fin de siècle

sent for Argentina what it did dominated by scepticism and

at the beginning of this century. globalisation, it is not enough

The local press provides the just to be a prince, and poor

bolic battles. Who is visiting us: kings nor the glamour of the

generated very different re- IN THE Falklands many people

from a respectful welcome when they heard of Prince

Charles has neither the aura of

had an "I told you so" attitude

res gathered up potentially oppos-isonal figures into the seemingly

sidering making an appointment to the

chairmanship of the Tote in the run-

up to the general election he se-

cured, as convention required, the

agreement of his shadow, Jack Straw,

to go ahead and make it. It was the

then leader of the opposition who,

instantly seeing that this was an at-

tractive job, for which a Labour home

intervened and stopped the appoint-

ment from being made in advance of

the election.

WHEN MICHAEL Howard was con- at the end of the year. Not everyone agrees that he has to ponder it at all, since, as is normal, the Leader of the Opposition has already made his recommendation: that of Sir Alastair Goodlad, John Major's chief whip, whom William Hague rather painfully sacked from the Shadow Cabinet. (Convention dictates that one commissioner, in this case Neil Kinnock, secretary, not to mention a Labour should be of the governing party and

'yrime minister, could confer a con-siderable sense of obligation by filling. the other from the opposition.) Nor was Mr Hague's a frivolous proposal. Had Mr Hague followed his own instincts by suggesting a deep-dyed Eurosceptic, it would have been deliberate mischief-making. But Sir Alastair, part of the liberal, patrician wing of the Tory party, is a natural though unfanatical pro-European. He has a strong sense of the British interest. He combines decency with a certain humorous worldliness, which makes him impossible

to dislike. Why, therefore, should there be any doubt about it? First, because while convention dictates that the two commissioners should be from opposing parties, it does not require the leader of the opposition's recommendation to be followed. Indeed there is a list of precedents in which previous prime ministers did not do so. The decision by Jim Callaghan to appoint Christopher Tugendhat rather than John Davies, who was recommended by the then opposition leader Margaret Thatcher, and John Major's to give Bruce Millan another two years in Brussels, rather than accede to John



Who will Tony Blair choose as

Britain's new man in Brussels?

#### **DONALD MACINTYRE**

If the Government wants to maximise influence in the EU we must have a big. high-profile commissioner

cause there is another first-rate and, frankly, better-qualified candidate waiting in the wings.

Here an interest should be declared in passing. Mr Chris Patten is a non-executive director of Independent Newspapers (UK), which owns The Independent, but it would be hard to ignore his qualities if he were on the board of a deadly rival. The Prime Minister is already sufficiently seized of them to have put Mr Patten in charge of perhaps the most politically delicate of all of the enquiries established by this Government, that into the future

of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. Mr Patten was certainly one of the brightest stars of the Tory Party in the Eighties. Had the electors of Bath not turfed him out in favour of a Liberal Hurd stood down, Instead he refused to take either a peerage, or an unceremonious reinsertion into the Commons by means of an enforced byelection, and became the last governor of Hong Kong, performing that difficult task with distinction under two Tory foreign secretaries and one

He has thought long and seriously about Europe. It is difficult, in other words, to think of a senior Tory - with the possible exception of Kenneth Clarke, who isn't interested in becoming a commissioner - who is better qualified for an international job.

There has been talk in Brussels of Mr Patten getting the new post of executing and co-ordinating the EU's Foreign and Security Policy, and that's certainly possible. But unlike the commissionership, the foreign policy post is not in Mr Blair's gift; it's not certain that it will go to a Briton. It is part of the complex horse-trading among all the big EU countries. At present the main focus of discussion in Whitehall and Brussels is on the question of the commission presidency, for which Romano Prodi of Italy and Javier Solana of Spain are both likely candidates. If Mr Solana gets the presidency then Carlos Westendorn. another Spaniard, will not get the for-

eign policy job. And so on. This is difficult for the Prime Minister. Sir Alastair was his parliamentary pair (under the reciprocal arrangement by which an MP allows his opponent to take the night off by not going through the division lobby), commissioner to replace Sir Leon Smith's recommendation of Neil Kin- Democrat, he would probably have be- as intimate a relationship as an MP

were most welcome.

party. Sir Alastair is also a friend of the Lord Chancellor's. It would not be easy to deprive him of a job Mr Hagne no doubt partly intended to be compensation for losing his seat on the Shadow Cabinet And finally, he is reputed to have played a helpful behind-the-scenes role in the negotiations that led to the historic compromise allowing 91 hereditary peers to retain

their seats in the Lords. But this isn't really the point. It is much more a question of how Britain is seen in Europe. If the British Government wants to maximise its influence in the EU - and it surely does then it is important to have a big and upwardly mobile Tory figure in the Commission. Sir Leon, a figure of real authority in Brussels, has shown how important it is to have a pro-European Conservative with a high profile as a British commissioner. Nice as he is, Alastair Goodlad simply doesn't have

that kind of profile or capacity to ar-ticulate the future direction of the EU. Mr Patten, with an already high international reputation, and from the front rank of British politicians, undoubtedly does. If he doesn't get the foreign policy job, he surely has a bet-ter claim to the commissionership than any other Conservative.

The Prime Minister is no doubt sensible not to make a decision before he has to; part of the useful exercise of patronage is to keep the possible beneficiaries waiting. But while Mr Blair likes Mr Goodlad a lot, he is also a meritocrat who wants to be taken seriously in Europe. Two considerations which point inexorably towards Brittan when his term of office expires nock, are only two. And secondly, be come foreign secretary when Douglas can have with an MP in the opposing the former governor of Hong Kong.

alongside a little democracy a

## \*THE INDEPENDENT

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## A resignation that is good for Germany and all Europe

WITHIN MINUTES of the news of Oskar Lafontaine's abrupt resignation as German Finance Minister, the value of the euro went up by two cents against the dollar on the foreign exchanges.

Whatever the reasons for Lafontaine's dramatic resignation, that simple fact illustrates why his going had become so important, and so necessary. It is not that Lafontaine was a "leftie", the red menace of British tabloid venom and German cartoonists' delight. In reality he wasn't nearly as far to the left as he was painted. Nor does one accept his departure so easily because the man was so unpredictable in his behaviour and so flamboyant in his private life, although those traits too are becoming less acceptable in today's world. Indeed it is possible to have a great deal of sympathy with a politician who cared deeply about issues such as unemployment, restrictive monetary policies, and the launch of a curo that put the credentials of the new currency above the need to prevent a slide back into recession.

But the reality is that Oskar had become a liability to Germany, to the fledgling project of monetary union, and to the political health of the union. While the British became obsessed with his ambitions to extend German levels of tax and social welfare payments throughout Europe, and to Britain in particular, the rest of Germany was far more concerned with his constant and public rowing with the German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder. Like Gordon Brown, Lafontaine never forgave Schröder for beating him to leadership of the Social Democratic Party, and hence to the top job in the country, while Schröder never forgave Lafontaine for driving out his friend Jost Stollmann from an economic ministership almost as soon as he had been appointed.

With division at the top, the German government has been unable to produce an acceptable new tax programme for the country. Even worse, he has ensured his nation has been unable to present a solid face to Europe, whose presidency Germany now has for the first half of the year. At the same time Lafontaine, partly in concert with his French counterpart, has launched a damagingly public campaign to get the new European Central Bank to temper its monetary terms in view of faltering European growth. It was not a silly campaign. The Americans, after all, also want Europe to drop interest rates in order to promote growth. But the hostility of Germany's economic chief did much to undermine the first months of

So how much better will Europe now be without him? Germany, the pivotal country in this fledgling project, will be stronger without a divided leadership. Blair will undoubtedly be happier too, solidified in an undisputed



#### leadership with Schröder, who is his political soulmate, rather than Lafontaine, whose pro-French tendencies got in the way. The French prime minister, Lionel Jospin, is probably more comfortable with a quieter tone of economic conservatism than Lafontaine allowed him. The euro will become - and indeed already is - stronger for the cessation of hostilities.

Yet to blame Lafontaine for all these problems, and to hope that they will evaporate with his departure, would be to misread the situation. Schröder's handling of government since taking office, and his first efforts in the presidency of Europe, have been uncertain and at times inept. German growth is slowing alarmingly and the pressure for a relaxation of monetary discipline will go on albeit less publicly. For Europe, and for Britain, this provides opportunities. But Lafontaine's departure only makes it more urgent that Blair throws himself wholeheartedly into an enterprise that now needs British support just as Britain needs its success.

## CAP reform: one step forwards, two back

WE TRY to understand European Union politics, we really do. But this is the sort of thing that illustrates the sheer undemocratic obfuscation which hampers the building of a people's Europe. The EU's farm ministers had before them two radical options for reforming the Common Agricultural Policy. One was to reduce progressively the subsidy paid to farmers to compensate them for ending price supports. The other was to require national governments to bear one quarter of the cost of the CAP in their country. They chose neither, and ended up with a deal which means the CAP will continue to cost the taxpayers

al will eventually save £1bn a year on food prices in this

country - but what he means is that food prices will not go up by this amount, as they otherwise would. This is scant consolation for the fact that we must pay much more for our food than we need to until at least 2006.

The failure to agree radical reforms of the CAP additionally undermines the EU's stance in its dispute with the US over Caribbean bananas - which cannot be presented as an exceptional case for tariffs as long as the entire EU food market remains so insulated from world prices. It undermines the sincerity of the EU in negotiating for Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Slovenia and Cyprus to join the EU as soon as possible.

And it weakens the whole case for further European integration by emphasising the irrational opaque and only tenuously democratic processes of decision-making at the centre. Yesterday's deal was a step in the right direction, of Europe as much as it does today for the next seven years. in that it stopped the bloated farm subsidies getting any Nick Brown, the British agriculture minister, claims the larger, but it was a miserable pigeon-toed step which -

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's been pretty tough to keep going." Alexander Thymn, 7th Marquess of Bath and owner of the Longleat estate

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"A lotta cats copy the Mona Lisa, but people still line up to see the original." Louis Armstrong.

iazz musician

# No news is bad

news.

Watch the new ten o'clock news from the award-winning Sky News Team tonight.

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## **MONITOR** ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

South American press comment on Prince Charles's state visit to Argentina

their islands and they were re- British press over so-called lieved that the press reports talks and requests for special coming from Argentina weren't favours and proposed visits true. It reaffirmed their faith in had begun to wear people down the system. The pressure from in the past few weeks, so his reworthy of the future monarch Charles's comments about both the Argentine and the marks about an understanding

Teaberry Express, Falklands

was a thrust in the diplomatic fencing over the Malvinas, His argument was surprising and worrying for the future. With all

few kilometres from Argentine democracy". These strong THE PRINCE had a king of words produced an immediate spades up his sleeve. Lacking sensation of discomfort among an ace to trump the power of the ministers of the govern-President Menem, the key sea- ment, despite their efforts to tence in the Prince's speech conceal it. No one knew in advance what he was going to say, and no one expected it. The implications of those words fell on the Argentine government like delicacy and formality of style, a bucket of cold water. but firmly, he issued an invita- La Nacion, Argentina

between us and Argentina tion to "live harmoniously

## **PANDORA**

HANDBAGS AT dawn at Carlton's next board meeting? The media monolith's plutocratic proprietor, Michael Green. was asked about negotiations with the Hollywood tycoon Barry Diller. "No problem," Green smiled. "He's just an old Jewish queen." Green himself is a Jewish family man with a lively sense of humour. Let's hope his new co-director, Lord (Waheed) Alli, who's just sold his share of Planet 24 to Carlton for six zeros plus two commas, is similarly easy-going. Locals at Tenterden in Kent refer to Alli's long-term partner (and fellow Planet 24 sell-out beneficiary) Charlie Parsons

FAREWELL, FLAMING Ferraris. After James Archer's wheels fell off this week, the latest sobriquet for Credit Suisse First Boston's futures desk is "the Smouldering Skodas".

as "the lady of the manor".

CONSERVATIVE EDUCATION policy offends the Government's palate. When the Tory spokesman David Willetts rose to speak in Thursday's education debate, Lucy, the faithful hound of the education secretary David Blunkett, threw up.

JOHN PRESCOTT'S Indian jaunt hasn't loosened his grip over colleagues at the Department of **Environment**, Transport and the Regions. Our Number One Guy's chief steward phoned in to the departmental morning meeting this week to take a roll-call. Glenda Jackson. Michael Meacher and Nick Raynsford sheepishly indicated their attendance, "as if the boss had just called a school register", says one apparatchik.

CONSPICUOUS AMONG MIPs signing an Early Day Motion to support the Royal National Lifeboat Institution this week ... Julia Drown

WE'RE ALL familiar with those rapid-fire emergency-room scenes in Casualty night) where blood spills, six-packs tremble and the scrubbed ones talk at 150mph. But what are they babbling about? Herewith, the first of Pandora's Subtitles for the Slang-Impaired. Coag screen: how effectively blood is coagulating. Going off: patient is deteriorating badly. Hopper: a

malingerer who flits from hospital to hospital to get unwarranted attention. IV bolus: massive one-shot intravenous drug feed through a drip. Sinus rhythm: normal heartbeat. DOA: dead on arrival DIC: died in casualty. DIT: died in transit, BID: brought in dead. PO: per ora (by mouth). PR: per rectum. PV: "Ladies only".

SAY IT ain't so, Bill. A US tabloid is about to break the story of how Slick Willy had the hots for three female secret service agents. One of them allegedly filed a formal complaint. Beltway insiders say rumours of a marriage split are Hillary's doing; she's playing victim as part of her long-term political strategy.

ARE THE legs coming off William Hague's kitchen table Conservatism? The party's house journal, a newspaper called *The Daily* Telegraph, ran a bold story pointing out that "William Hague doesn't have a kitchen table". Imagine the hapless hack's surprise when she was telephoned by the Boy Blunder. "Alice." Hague chided, "when you came over, we had coffee in the kitchen, didn't we?" Yes, she agreed. "Well, what do you think we were drinking it off?" Oops.

WINNER OF Pandora's saucer

of milk this week is W magazine, which assembled its style cop to make over Camilla Parker Bowles for its next issue. "She's looking very dowdy and frumpy," says New York designer Carolina Herrera, John Joseph, a Beverly Hills plastic surgeon. is more clinical: "It looks like she's had a fair amount of sun exposure, and the skin has lost its elasticity." The knifestyler of the rich and famous advises immediate laser skin resurfacing - along with a neck- and face-lift. Even Bowles's barnet catches flak. Hollywood hairtresser Art Luna: "She's got to get rid of that weird short Farrah thing." But the cat with the

cream is Julien Macdonald, sometime knitwear maven at Chanel and Lagerfeld. The Welsh wool wizard more aggressive fashion attitude. otherwise she'll end up looking like

Princess Anne". Macdonald's panacea? Black leather during the day, and at night – red only. "She should be a scariet woman – after all she is anyway."

Contact Pandora by e-mail: pandora@ independent.

## The day I was named in the House

OK, TODAY'S column is going to be entirely given over to boasting. I don't think I've been so revoltingly over-excited since my sixth birthday party, to be honest, and now that I'm middle-aged my mum is not, I hope, going to take me on one side and tell me to stop showing off, It's just this: I have been named on the floor of the House of Commons. As Nancy Mitford used to say: do admit.

I was having a quiet little nap at about four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon when the telephone rang. It was a mate of mine, calling from his office in the House of Commons. "You'll never guess." he said. "They're asking about you in Points of Order By name, I mean, by name." "What?" I said. "Not expressing boundless admiration for the deathless prose again, are they?" "No, no, better, much better," he said. "They're slagging you off." And then affairs of state seized him

and he had to go. It wasn't until I got hold of Hansard yesterday that I saw what it was all about. A few days ago I went on Radio 4's Today programme to set them right about some minuscule leak that was caus-



**PHILIP** HENSHER

Parliament is wrong and deplorable and silly, and its activities

largely a waste of time

ing a tiny fuss that day. A clerk, the head of the administrative team to a select committee, had been discovered to have sent a list of draft questions to a government department in advance of an evidence session. There's a great deal of jitteriness about at the moment as soon as the word "leak" is mentioned, and plenty of MPs could be found to denounce this dreadful

interference with a committee's been her I would have been pretty sovereign rights, this appalling act of collusion, etc etc etc.

Well, years ago I used to be a clerk on a select committee, and if this was a violation of a committee's rights, it was certainly one I used to carry out blithely twice a week, as did everyone else I ever worked with I mean select committees are not sessions of Mastermind: they are there to establish information, and a committee or a chairman who wants only to make witnesses look ignorant or foolish - stand up Gerald Kaufman - is wasting everyone's time. So, of course, we used to tell witnesses roughly what the committee was interested in, just as we told the committee what to be interested in. The point was to try to keep the whole thing more or less

on the rails. No public official, of course, could say this once MPs had started to express outrage about it, and the House of Commons rather weedily didn't try to defend a universal and indispensable practice, Indeed, they claimed in the newspapers that the official had been disciplined. I don't believe this for a second, but if I had

furious to read in print that I had been reprimanded for doing my job. Anyway, I went on the radio to say how stupid and damaging it was to call these negotiations "leaking". Even Members of Parliament, in the end, ought to be able to understand the difference between this and, say, sending a draft of a report critical of a government department to the relevant ministry and asking them what changes they

would like to suggest.

In a way, the tiny row typifies the regular spectacle of the House of Commons at its worst. It has no effective means of defending its own procedures, so it is easy to assume that when they fail to resemble, say. the German Bundestag's, they are quaint, pointless, a waste of time, or even corrupt. In fact, little of all this is eccentric spectacle; most of the apparent pantomime, like the game of musical chairs as a Bill goes into committee, or the slamming of the door in Black Rod's face, is there to announce constitutional principles. I'm not saying that the House's daily practices should not be questioned, but it is extraordinary at what

length discussions can be sustained in the House between people who frankly have no idea what they are talking about. The authorities in the House have the sense, you expect, to make a show of throwing up their hands in horror and then continuing exactly as they did before. But you can't help feeling that a robust response of "this is how things need to be done" would, from time to time, be more appropriate.

Parliament is wrong and deplorable and silly, and its activities are largely routine, or even a waste of time. Of course this is the case. and no one should be more interested in Parliament than in the great world that streams swiftly through its intricate mechanisms. It is customary to announce that nowadays life is elsewhere, in the regions, or in continental Europe. But all the same, I bet you know what I mean about the thrill and excitement of being named on the floor of the House. Anyone would want to boast about it. It still matters, and still counts in a way in which Europe doesn't yet, in a way in which the ( Church doesn't any more; and it isn't just nostalgic sentiment that says so.

# The truth is that science is boring to schoolchildren

LONG, LONG ago, when Peter Mandelson was in charge of the Department of Trade and Industry, I went to see him launch a campaign to get more girls to take up science at school. The venue was a school in Camden, and, of course, the only suitable place to launch such an idea was in the science laboratories themselves.

It was not an auspicious choice. The event was delayed because a fire alarm went off – caused, it was said, by faulty wiring in one of the school's four laboratories. Then before we trooped back in to hear Mr Mandelson announce that £85,000 would be spent printing posters and somehow persuading secondary school girls that science really is fun, a member of staff sidled up to me.

"Ask him how long it is since the laboratories were refurbished," the teacher said. "Because I've been here 20 years and they've certainly never been improved in that time."

like this give pupils a good message about the value you put on science?"

"What I think is a good message," he replied through gritted teeth, giv-ing me a look that would deselect a Labour MP at 50 paces, "is how much money is going into science in the classroom, and investment in the interface of science laboratories and teaching in our schools."

Whatever that meant, it didn't disguise the fact that on the board where safety glasses should be, pair No 30 was missing; or that some of the potentiometers tused to vary resistance in electrical circuits) looked as though they had been handed down from Thomas Faraday. I'm prepared to bet, as Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Week starts today, that the No 30 pair is still missing and that the potentiometers have not been replaced.



#### **CHARLES** ARTHUR

The trouble with teaching science to children is that it's chiefly a method,

not just a body of facts

Contrast that gloomy thought with the news, reported in this paper earlier this week, that "narrative non-fiction" - and especially science - is enjoying a boom among about superstring theory, look no further than your nearest bookshop. where Brian Greene's The Elegant Universe will lead you gently but thoroughly into a comprehension of 11-dimensional space. Science books are enjoying a boom. So are science programmes on TV. People are fascinated by science and scientists, and especially by the power they wield in the modern age.

However, power also leads to fear, especially if you don't understand how it is that the scientist gains that power. And while it may seem like a huge leap from Peter Mandelson in a run-down school laboratory to the sort of concerns - most of them groundless - expressed over, say, genetically modified foods, there is a clear link.

The trouble with teaching science to children is that science (and, by extension, engineering and tech-

nology) is predominantly a method, rather than being just a body of facts. It is important for the science stu-

dent to discover that when you perform experiments all sorts of things don't happen as you want them to: that copper sulphate, while having interestingly shaped crystals, is very hard to measure out exactly (unless you grind it, in which case it's hard to keep track of the bits). Or that repeating 19th-century physics experiments in such a way that you get the same results is in fact extremely hard.

Learning to "do" science, rather than just "learning" science (such as the sequence of hormones in the menstrual cycle and pregnancy - a group of facts I learnt at school vhose value has become clear only 25 years later) is difficult. It puts people, including girls, off. To be honest, I'm not sure whether gleaming new laboratories would make much difference. You have to like the prac-

However, it is through carrying out the experiments that a scientist is truly born - fired, if you like, by the flame of the Bunsen burner. Graduate scientists know that textbooks may offer all the answers, but they hide the long slog involved in getting there - all the peculiar data usually dismissed as "experimental error", and the joy of being able to make your experiment work not once but twice and then three times.

It is much easier, though, to read a book. Which is why although fewer people are applying to do science and engineering at university, and fewer are taking science subjects at A-level, we have a publishing boom for science books. Is that a bad thing? If we are truly

headed for an economy in which knowledge and science are the keystones, then yes, it is bad that fewer people are now doing science. It is much hope for SET Week breaking fallback.



How can we enthuse girls with science?

always better to be a producer than a consumer. In addition, reliance on predigested information means that

foods and crops, appears on the horizon, the non-scientist's first reaction is panic. Professor Steve Jones, an expert in genetics at University College London, remarked this week that: "the story of GM foods has been the biggest disaster for the national understanding of science in the past decade... everyone, on both sides of the argument, seems to have suspended their critical faculties. just because science is involved."

It is interesting to note what Professor Jones - a geneticist, but not an expert in genetic manipulation did when he wanted to find out more: he asked other scientists who would know about it, and weighed up their answers for himself. He carried out the procedure. The reaction of the public, by contrast, has been to try to find ready-made answers. I have to admit that I don't hold out

through the public's ignorance about science, and particularly in getting people to understand the science questions that matter to them - such not genes define your destiny, and perhaps even whether the universe really is made up of superstrings. That is because they will have been turned off the practice of science long ago, in those antiquated school laboratories, despite the best efforts of ministers.

Not even Peter Mandelson was immune from that indifference. On that November day in Camden, he recalled his own science teaching: My headmaster tried to get me to do arts and chemistry A-levels, each in a single year. I didn't. In my endof-term report he wrote, I have tried to show Mandelson the path to greatness but he has chosen to gnore my advice.' And look," Mr Mandelson said, "at where I am."

Perhaps he should have done accountancy instead of art. But the chemistry might have been a useful

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## A continent infected with corruption

CRIMINALS ARE people who break the criminal law. But what happens when people pledged to execute the laws of a country - policemen, officials, cabinet ministers, heads of state even themselves contravene this same legal code massively and repeatedly? I am referring here not to misconduct of the than elsewhere. type alleged against President Clinton in the Starr report, but to such major crimes as large-scale fraud, drug-traffickcurrency, and murder or incite-

In recent years it has become clear that this is a questhe phenomenon which I am calling the criminalisation of the state is not by any means unique to Africa. There are other places where the apparatus of the state has been used for criminal purposes on a scale greater than anything seen in Africa, and where professional criminals may have assumed senior positions in government. Russia and Mex-

ico spring to mind. In Europe,

Italy has some of the hall-

marks of a criminalised state.

ment to murder.

Africa stands out only in that, of all the continents, it is the one in which the state as an organisation capable of upholding a monopoly of legitimate violence has declined the furthest and where, in some respects, the interaction of state and society can be studied more fruitfully in this regard

Let me be slightly more specific about what I mean when I speak of senior state officials who break the laws they ing, the counterfeiting of are pledged to uphold, Concentrating only on Africa, we might consider first the recruitment by government ministers - or simply by friends tion which anyone observing and relatives of the president, Africa has to think about. But as happened at the time of the genocide in Rwanda - of private armies, or the use of official armies and security forces

for purely private purposes. This has taken on the most tragic proportions in the Great Lakes region of Africa. It is hard to imagine any crime more serious than the use of organised violence, including large-scale murder, by private persons or for private purposes. It challenges the core of modern ideas about what a state is and what it is for



PODIUM STEPHEN ELLIS

From a speech by the Dutch academic to the Royal African Society of the University of London

Secondly, the engagement of state officials in major forms of illegal trade, such as drugsmuggling. This has occurred in several African countries, such as Equatorial Guinea, where some 20 diplomats have been arrested abroad carrying cocaine or heroin in the past 10 years, most of them close to senior ministers or to the presidency. Many of the culprits were promoted on being expelled from their countries of

countries, Nigeria has gained the greatest reputation in the We should also look at the

counterfeiting of the national currency by the head of state, such as was done in Kenya in the early Nineties, and the involvement of senior officials. including of the central bank, in major financial frauds or money-laundering schemes. such as has been recorded in Nigeria. Cameroon and Kenya. The contravention of the

national law by officials who, in theory, are required to play a central role in upholding their own national laws, sometimes up to and including the head of state, has become sufficiently common for us to need to think seriously about some of the implications. Elements of this can be seen not only in the countries I have mentioned but also in such major powers as China and India. Clearly we are falking about something different from what is most widely regarded as corruption, that is, an official soliciting a bribe for some service or taking a percentage of a public works contract. We could almost call that "classical" corruption.

Corruption implies deviation from a set of norms or laws. But when such activity is blatant and systematic (and involves those required to uphold such norms or laws) it can hardly be regarded as a deviation; rather, it has become the norm in every respect except the letter of the law.

It is apparent that the stuff of power - the accumulation of wealth and the control of legitimate coercion - is closely related to both politics and crime. A politician and a pirate resemble each other quite closely (which does not mean that it is impossible to distinguish between them). I am by no means the first person to point this out (in fact, it is mentioned by that great African intellectual, Saint Augustine). But it is a lesson that is well worth relearning if we are to understand the modern world. We need to understand the accumulation of wealth and power in its historical context rather than to prefer to believe, as we characteristically do at present, that these are temporary deviations from a norm of good governance which is destined to take over

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DEBORAH ORR

She's a busted flush if she

sticks by her husband; her

credibility can't be sustained

if she sanctions his behaviour

IS IT too much to hope for? Or is Hillary

Clinton finally going to do the decent thing and ditch her sexual abuser of a husband?

While reports of a trial separation are based

firmly on rumour and supposition, we've all seen this pattern before, and not long

after an Andrew Morton biography was

indeed what she denied herself to be in

January1992, before her husband had

even become President: "I'm not some little

woman standing by her man like Tammy

Hillary later had to apologise to the now dead country star for that remark. And

Tammy Wynette isn't the only woman who

deserves an apology from Hillary Clinton.

Gennifer Flowers, Dolly Kyle, Lencola Sul-

livan, Jo Jenkins, Connie Hamzy, Sally Per-

due, Paula Jones, Monica Lewinsky, Juanita

Broaddrick ... the long list of women we now

know to have been vilified and smeared in the name of the Clintons' joint political

career should all be apologised to, not just

From the beginning, before Bill Clinton even became President, when Hillary de-

fended him over his relationship with the

night-chib singer Gennifer Flowers, the men and women of America have reasoned

that if Bill's serial adultery is all right with

his wife, then it's no one else's affair. Fur-

ther, they have believed that it is right-wing

conspiracy, not Bill Clinton's own folly, that

is the reason for continual rumours threat-

sticking by the President is beside the point

here. Whether Hillary did it because she's

madly in love with him, or because she's

madly in love with political power, the re-

Some of the most significant feminists

of the US have been falling over themselves

for years to justify Bill Clinton's behaviour,

seemingly forgetting that in this way they

fice the lives and reputations of scores of

Susan Faludi, author of Backlash, the

est-selling book that warned against the

slippage of women's rights in America, com-

mented on the Lewinsky affair with a

"If anything, it sounds like she put the moves on him," Faludi declared, seemingly

comfortable with the idea that a man

n on the altar of political expediency.

sanction the worst of all male sexual be-

Speculation about Hillary's motives for

by Bill but by Hillary as well.

ening to damage his career

sult has been the same.

touch of backlash herself.

Has Hillary finally realised that she is

iblished, either

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## orruption

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from oscur-mass caroc sustant in the House between people of frankly have no idea what they are almost the authorities of falling about the authorities in talking mount one summines into Metroe have the sense, you enset to make a show of throwing up to make as to wear, and then content to make a many or according to be the first of the second the second to be second t grandly in they did belong by the can't help technic that a robust to be, thate, month than time place as the state of after is how thinks to cannot a tomate be more appropriate.

Farhament is wrong and a placeable and sille and its achig one princip toulitie, or delight of tune. Of course this is the and no one should be more be extend in Parlament than in the great world that streams and through its intricate mechanic It is customary to announce b tential of in continents the continents of in continents for the continents of the c But all the same, I belyon be what I mean about the brill me of the House, Picous Roughant breast about it it still matters. differentials in a way in which the Cherch dayso't any more addig just trostaline sentiment that says

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when it's offered to him on a plate. Even more dismissive of women was the grandmother of second-wave feminism, Betty Friedan, who offered the opinion that Clinton's "enemies are attempting to bring



Don't stand by him, Hillary

Hillary Clinton is now reported to be contemplating leaving her husband and striking out on her own

When the woman who invented sisterhood comes out with remarks like this, it's no wonder that the entire nation felt it was open season on Monica Lewinsky, who has been subject to attacks on her person which suggest that feminism never hap-

pened at all. The most pathetic response came from should never, ever be expected to resist sex the queen of pretty feminism, Naomi Wolf, who hasn't commented on the matter feeling it inappropriate for herself to voice any kind of opinion because her own husband, David Shipley, has close links to the Clin-

haviour. They have closed ranks to sacri- him down through allegations about some Maybe Hillary should have cited Naomi pid have to be the remarks of the creator

The most self-contradictory comment has come from Gloria Steinem, who bizarrely offers the defence of Bill that Hillary is the ultimate feminist trophy wife: "He's married to a woman who's at

least his equal, whom he clearly likes and respects? So, guys, marry a strong and capable woman, then tomcat up and down the country making a mockery of your marriage and your children. It's not how you conduct

yourself that matters, it's whose finger you And the most unbelievably crass and stu-

dalliance with an intern... Whether it's a fan-tasy, a set-up or true, I simply don't care." and not Tammy when she was standing by her man in 1992. from the waist down" and then went on to speculate on the Lewinsky relationship with the deathless observation: "Oh! Imagine

swallowing the President's semen." Erica, your trouble has always been that you're alive only from the waist down. Following Hillary's example, all of these

women have stood by their left-leaning man, and for some of the same reasons as Hillary. They want to hang on to his power, rather than forge their own, like the little women they've proved themselves to be. They defend him because he shares some of their political ambitions. But they never

### stop to ask themselves why. Of course Bill Clinton is pro-choice. It appears that he has packed women off to the abortionist himself. Of course he's in favour of female equality in the workplace. How else would he find mistresses, and how, if these women didn't support themselves, would be be able to make sure they were bandily tucked away in discreet hotel rooms?

These feminists, improbably headed by their "First Lady", have somehow managed completely to separate Clinton's political ambitions from his personal behaviour, even though they've all been raised on the idea that "the personal is political". And now, as the revelations keep on coming, they're having to face up to the kind of man they've been blindly defending.

They knew he was a philanderer. They knew he was a liar. They knew he was a cheat. They knew he was a sexual harasser. an office groper, a seducer of women young enough to be his children. Now, as Clinton continues to refuse to deny Juanita Broaddrick's accusations (not that a denial from him is worth the air it's breathed into) that he violently raped her in a hotel room two decades ago, it's beginning to dawn on them that he might be a full-blown, all-out

rapist, too.

It is this latest criminal act of infidelity. friends are reported to have said, that is the final straw with Hillary. But still some feminists are unwilling to condemn him. Susan Faludi has commented on this latest allegation: "I'm torn between the twin poles of my total feminist commitment to any woman who's been sexually assaulted and the feeling that I may have gotten on a bandwagon to indict someone who may be innocent. Short of storing him, what is it that people want to do?"

But isn't this the antithesis of feminist thought? Isn't it bad old blokes who are supposed to believe that men should always be given the benefit of the doubt when women cry rape? It seems to me that far from wanting to stone Bill Clinton, too many people want him to remain as leader of the free world at any cost, and whatever he has done.

That is why Hillary Clinton is a busted flush if she sticks by her husband now. She's always been an odd sort of feminist, carving out a political platform that mainly champions women's rights, on the back of her marriage to a powerful man. By doing this she not only shores him up, but also shores up the idea that the democratic way is for leaders to be men, with supportive women behind them and at least one child, to reassure the public that the country really is run by heterosexuals.

And now that this man stands accused of being the worst kind of heterosexual - a rapist - her credibility as an "international icon for women" - as she has been described - surely cannot be sustained as long as she continues to sanction his behaviour by remaining his wife.

Cunton is now contemplating doing what she should have done years ago, not just in her marriage but in her career as well. She may strike out on her own and stand in New York for the Senate. She should certainly make this kind of move at last, but she really ought to divest herself of her sleazy husband first. Surely even the citizens of New York aren't so liberal that they wish to be represented by a woman who shares her life with an untried sex offender? And surely, if success is the best revenge, this is the way for her to recover her own dignity, and the dignity of the wayward feminists of America.

## **RIGHT** OF REPLY

PETER NIXON



The director of estates for the National Trust answers David Aaronovitch's attack on the charity

WE COULDN'T but smile at David Aaronovitch's "tongue in-check" idea of charging the National Trust, along with the Royal Family and The Archers, with influencing the psyche of the great British public. As I'm sure David knows, the National Trust was created with a prime purpose of protecting open countryside so that people could enjoy it. Indeed one of our founders. Octavia Hill, was deeply com mitted to safeguarding coun tryside as "open air sitting rooms." The Trust has a particular remit, as stated in its Acts of Parliament, to ensure that extensive areas of land in its care are kept "as open spaces for the recreation and enjoyment of the public".

We can only estimate the number of people – around 50 million visits - who come to enjoy the coast and countryside in the Trust's care. There is no single gate to walk through and be counted much of the Trust's open countryside and coastlines never closes.

We don't just sit back and wait for people to turn up. In addition to our education, community and volunteering programmes, we organise a host of countryside activities for all ages such as our "Ugly Bug Safaris" for children and "Birds Before Breakfast" walks for early risers.

The National Trust does all it can as a charity with finite resources to manage and protect the countryside in its care, but our commitment to access comes at a price. For this, we rely on the support of many people, including our 2.6 million members and countless visitors, benefactors, supporters and volunteers. All of these people play an invaluable part in ensuring that the National Trust continues to provide access to the countryside for the benefit of the nation – and that means everyone.

## Condé Nasty gossip

THEN, AT last year's London International Book Fair, rumours began to circulate that the German multimedia giant Bertelsmann had bought Si Newhouse's publishing group Random House, the initial reaction was laughter Apart from anything else, in a business that makes politics look well-plumbed such a deal could not have been discussed, much less consummated, with-

out word having leaked. By 3pm the news had been confirmed, and it was almost possible to hear the sound of jaws dropping. Even Random House UK's chief executives had had no inkling that anything was up until 48 hours earlier, when a Bertelsmann emissary had summoned each of them to breakfast. Nevertheless, they assured everyone, it was business as usual, and Bertelsmann has a welldeserved reputation for not interfering in the day-to-day running of successful

constitutions.
Which is more than can be said for Samuel I Newhouse Jr, known as Si, who inherited from his father a vast private media empire. The older Newhouse, who died in 1979, "sought profit and an empire to pass on to his sons so that they in turn could pass it on to their sons". The younger Newhouse "lives for the attention, the social cachet. Vogue, The New Yorker, Knopf and Random House have opened doors for the tongue-tied

multibillionaire that would otherwise have slammed shut in his face." Carol Feisenthal's book makes fascinating reading to those with an obsessive interest in the world of New York magazines, for each entrance and exit from Newhouse's Condé Nast stable is jainstakingly detailed. Not for nothing was the firm nicknamed Condé Nasty, for Newhouse appears incapable of putting even senior executives out to grass with any sense of decorum. The venerable Diana Vreeland, who successfully reinvented American Vogue, was dispatched without ceremony. So too Robert Gottlieb, installed in 1985 to



ton administration.

## FRIDAY BOOK

CITIZEN NEWHOUSE: PORTRAIT OF A MEDIA MERCHANT

edit The New Yorker following its expensive acquisition by Newhouse. His successor, Tina Brown, jumped before

she could be pushed. In many ways, Si's behaviour is unsurprising. The spoon in his mouth was not merely silver but diamond-crusted for, by his birth in 1927, father Sam had made his first fortune with the Staten Island Advance and the Long Island Daily Press. The family was installed in a 14-room Park Avenue duplex which Sam's wife Mitzi endlessly redecorated in a style favouring Louises XIV and XV.

BY CAROL FELSENTHAL, SEVEN STORIES PRESS. £20 working for a lawyer who had accepted a 51 per cent stake in a local newspaper in lieu of a fee. Charged with taking care of the paper, young Sam saw that it was losing money because it lacked advertising. By 1916 he had a share of the equity and a salary of \$30,000 a year. He never looked back, scooping up dozens of metropolitan papers and moving in

early on cable TV. When, in 1959, Sam bought Condé Nast as a 35th wedding anniversary present for Mitzi, who desperately wanted to appear in Vogue (she did, in 1964), his eldest son at last found an interest beyond spending the family fortune at up-

The eldest of eight in a family of Jewish immigrants, Sam had become the breadwinner at 13. He secured a job as market restaurants. Si had grown up in a bookkeeper for two dollars a week, awe of his father. Mitzi had favoured his

FRIDAY POEM

ON DYEING

BY MICHAEL SYMMONS ROBERTS Once we knew it took a boatful of crushed shellfish - murex and purpura to turn one sleeve imperial purple. It took millions of beetles to die cochineal. pulverised madder roots for scarlet, indigo that went blue when it met the air. Without mordants to fix them. all these colours fell to pastel, then to cream. A dress could drain of lilac in an evening. No beauty lasted without ox-blood, oil. oak-galls, urine, alum, salt, shit.

Once we knew the cost of dyeing. This poem comes from Michael Symmons Roberts's second collection, 'Raising Sparks' (Cape, £8)

brother Donald. Harvard rejected Si, so too Cornell, and he dropped out of Syracuse. Along the way, he married and fivorced, and forged a friendship with

the McCarthy crony Roy Cohn. Si's 1980 purchase of Random House for \$65m (£38m) would have pleased his father. For a time, his stewardship was approved. He was in every day and got excited by books. But his acquisition of expensive celebrities such as Nancy Reagan and Donald Trump offended staff at what had always been a literary house. The head honcho Bob Bernstein was soon "retired" in favour of Alberto Vitale, characterised by the novelist James Michener as "an able numbercruncher, but not a man reared in the

traditions of American publishing". In the end, he may not have been so good at numbers; when Random House failed to turn a real profit, Newhouse decided to self. Commentators alleged it was because there was no heir apparent, although Si's nephew Steven, a Yale graduate, seemed genuinely interested

in publishing and had been groomed. In an astonishing oversight, Felsenthal omits to mention Newhouse's purchase in 1987 of the ailing Chatto, Bodley Head and Cape combine, surely the jewel in the crown of British publishing, or the takeover two years later of Century Mutchinson. Fascinating as it often is, her book is an overresearched portrait of the Newhouse magazine empire which, even in New York, is of consequence to very few people. But, beyond the gossip, it reveals in chilling detail the extent to which the rich and powerful play chess with the lives of those who are forced to work for a living. Who cares that reputations, literary and personal, are trashed in pursuit of one man's vainglorious quest? Appearance is everything, but all that

glisters is not gold. LIZ THOMSON

The reviewer is assistant editor of Publishing News'

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## Andreas Feininger

"TO ME," wrote Andreas Feininger, "any photograph worth looking at must be a reflection of life, of reality, of nature." Bauhaus architect. Life magazine photo-journalist, obsessive chronicler of the natural world - for 60 years Feininger was an incessant maker of pho-

He was born in Paris in 1906, the son of the painter Lyonel Feininger The family moved to Germany where Lyonel Feininger taught and worked with Marcel Breuer and Joseph Albers at the Bauhaus school of art and design. Andreas joined the Dessau Bauhaus in 1922, and by the late Twenties had qualified as an architect.

But it was photography, not architecture, which was to be his principal preoccupation and he soon began to make important technical and aesthetic experiments. Staring transfixed into the camera's lens, modernistically severe in wire glasses and spotlit against a dark backcloth, he made a self-portrait (in 1927) which was an enduring statement of his radical intent.

In 1931, Feininger was working as an architect in Hamburg. He was selling photo stories too, principally through the Berlin agency Dephot. When he moved to Paris in 1932 to work for Le Corbusier, he spent his spare time photographing on the streets, intrigued not by people, but by street signs, doors and shutters, gateways and shop windows.

But the idyll of European modernism ended as the Nazis gained power, and in 1933, Feininger left for Sweden. His first book of photographs, Menschen vor der Comera ("People in Front of the Camera"), appeared in 1934. In Stockholm, he finally abandoned architecture and became a professional photographer.

At first, he photographed buildings and industry, and worked on his photo-book Stockholm, which was published in 1936. Recherché technical processes, including the shimmering reversals of solarisation, the graphicness of reticulation, and the sculptural qualities of bas relief became increasingly intriguing to him. His 1939 book New Paths in Photography (published in the United States after his move to New York he wrote in 1974, "primarily with the in 1939) remains a classic explana-

tion of modernist photo-technique.

When Feininger arrived in America, he soon found commissions. He worked for the Black Star agency and by 1941 was a photo-journalist on Life magazine. Though early assignments revolved around architecture and industry, it was the work which emerged from his increasing preoccupation with the minutiae of the natural world which established him as a formidable presence in photography.

He suggested stories to Life which manifested his absorption in landscape. He travelled throughout America, to the Rockies, the Ozarks and the Mississippi. His intense study of the natural world had begun in the late Forties; a carpenter ants'

'I look at objects of nature primarily with the eye of the structural engineer who is fascinated by the inter-relationship of function and form'

nest photographed in 1948 becomes a stalagmited monument in a universe of insects, the egg capsules of a whelk, made in the same year, is a convoluted marvel of modern

Form had always intrigued him, and he began to look to the very structure of the animal world for subjects for his photographs. He shone bright light through the skeletal skull of a crucifix catfish and produced a photograph of intense and sculptural strength. He took a section of a horse's hip joint and made a lunar landscape of pitted starkly lit bone. "I look at objects of nature," eye of the structural engineer who



is fascinated by the inter-relationship of function and form."

When he left Life in 1962, Feininger had completed over 300 assignments, shown at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and held his first one-man exhibition at the American Museum of Natural History. Most recently he helped to assemble 80 of his favourite blackand-white photographs, taken between 1928 and 1988, for a retrospective exhibition that has been touring Europe since 1997.

Feininger became highly respected as a writer and exhibitor. During the Sixties alone he pubtechnical publication, The Complete Photographer, looking through it more than 30 years later, its vitality and commitment, the directness of its language, are as striking as ever "To see as the camera sees," he advised, "a photographer must mute all his senses except sight. There is no feeling, meaning, implication or value involved except the graphic values of form and texture, colour, light and dark."

Feininger's technical expertise, aesthetic insight and plain speaking earned him a huge audience. By the end of his life, he had published more than 50 books, technical works lished a book almost every year. In and collections of his own pho-1965, he issued his most important tographs. But he never became a February 1999.

guru. His books were for everyone, his photographs elegant, serious studies of a world which we can all recognise. His writing demystifed photography at a time when it was fashionable to make it complication and elusive. For Andreas Feininger, the natural world was a marvel of shape and pattern, of endlessly intriguing physical complexity, not a salve for the troubled soul, nor a panacea for angst.

Andreas Feininger, photographer and writer, born Paris 27 December 1906; married 1933 Gertrud Hagg (one son); died New York 18

## Philip Donnellan

SERIOUS TELEVISION documentary film-making may be out of fashion in these days of fly-by-night fleabites but what goes round comes round. One day film students will search the BBC archives for the work of Philip Donnellan to find out how to do the job properly. Donnellan pioneered the use of the new medium of television to give a voice to ordinary people.

Although his manner and accent were those of the patrician establishment - an essential asset in the internal politics of the BBC's bureaucracy - his vision was radical and subversive of the corporation's top-down value system. He respected the subjects of his films. He believed they had something to say that was worth hearing. And he saw his role as a technical enabler, allowing them to say it.

The people he filmed demon-strate his determination to open the ether to voices that usually go unheard - seafarers and fishermen, steelworkers and miners, Irish migrants and travelling people. Asked once what had happened to the creativity of the working class, he replied: "It's in their speech." Such an approach does not endear you to the mandarins; he was seen as a mayerick throughout his working life. But he survived the system for 36 vears and managed to make nearly 100 films, most of which were broadcast; some won awards.

Philip Donnellan was born in 1924, the son of a schoolmaster in Reigate. Leaving his boarding school at 16, he trained as a reporter on local newspapers in Surrey, dashing about on a bicycle to see where bombs had landed. War service in the Army - he joined the Seaforth Highlanders on his 18th birthday to get as far away from home as possible - took him to India, Burma, Malaya. China and North Africa with No 5 Commando and ended in Intelligence in Gibraltar.

In 1948 he applied to join the BBC in Birmingham and, although he heard of his father's death on the morning of his interview, he got the job - first as a radio announcer and newsreader, then as a writer and producer of radio features which were carefully scripted and read live by actors in the studio. When portable tape recorders became available in 1954 he moved into the collection and editing of actuality, along with Charles Parker, creator of the sound collage Radio Ballads.

Donnellan moved into television as a documentary producer in 1958, working exclusively on film and developing the contrapuntal use of sound and image. He was known as an extravagant producer, using vast quantities of film stock when only a small amount was shown; he was a perfectionist.

Much of his television work paralleled what Parker was doing in radio - using the words and songs of ordinary working people, directly presented without the intervention share their experiences and concerns. It was typical of his openness and honesty that he would show the crew filming - in Brechtian style, he liked to expose the real situation.

When he made The Fight For Shelton Bar in 1973, about the struggle against the threatened closure recognising and bringing out hidden of a Staffordshire steelworks, he invited the steelworkers into the cutting room to help edit it. The BBC chucked them out on the grounds of editorial independence.

The theatre director Peter Cheeseman applied the same techniques to his work on stage at the Victoria Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent, creating company-devised musical documentaries scripted from interviews with ordinary people. All three men were involved with Ewan Mac-Coll and Peggy Seeger in the folk revival, excavating and celebrating

"He was bloody impossible to Philip Donnellan, documentary work with," Cheeseman says, "but film-maker born Reigate, Surrey 9 when you made a film with Philip you February 1924; married 1952 were his friend for life." His passionate commitment to the subjects he filmed continued after the broad-

cast - after Where Do We Go From Here? (1967) about travelling people, he became involved in gypsy liaison groups; after making BD8, about the problems of blind people, in 1968, he founded the Shropshire Talking Newspaper for the Bland.

His films reflected his obsessions - with the sociology of industrial life (Joe the Civainsmith, 1958); with marginalised minorities (The Colony. about West Indians in Birmingham, 1964); with authority and the individual (Six Men. about men of power in 1965); with imperialism and its consequences (biographies of Nehru, de Gaulle, Nirumah, T.E. Lawrence); with working-class culture (Holf a Smile from Stoke, about the Potteries painter Arthur Berry, 1976).

But the films he would probably most want to be remembered for are Pure Radio (about broadcasting history, 1977) and Gone for a Soldier (1980), a two-parter about squaddies in the British Army from 1815 to 1979 which caused a furore for its anti-war empathy with the other ranks.

A tall, imposing figure, in the early days Donnellan was something of a dandy. One close colleague remembers him with a silver-tipped cane saying, "You must come back to my chambers", which turned out to be a dingy room in a boarding house. Later he changed his image, wearing fishermen's smocks and, intermittently, a beard.

His widow, Jill (they met in 1948 at Bush House, where she was a secretary with the BBC World Service and later became an announcer herself) says the change of style was a slow evolution. "At first he was absolutely dashing in a tweed suit, everything matched," she says. But when he moved from being a newsreader to a documentary producer he dressed down to blend with the ordinary people he was interviewing - "That's why people talked to him so well." They moved from the Daily Telegraph to The Guardian at the

time of Suez. "I might have been playing golf and bridge for life if I hadn't met him," Jill says. "But through him I have met an extraordinary range of people." Together they built up a collection of about 100 pieces of



of an intermediary commentator, to Donnellan: voice of the people

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vernacular pottery - handmade or decorated mugs, jugs, loving cups as used for serving drink by ordinary people - which is now lodged on permanent loan at the New Victoria Theatre in North Staffordshire.

Philip and Jill had four children. Tom is a lighting designer in Spain; Tom is a lighting designed in Space.

Rebecca a broadcaster in France:

Philippa a dancer in London and ny. "He was a bloody hard man to live with," Poliy says, "but he made me aware of the people around me."

In 1988 he wrote a book, We Were the BBC, which Jill describes as "a non-Asa Briggs history". It awaits publication. Most of his films are kept by the British Film Institute; those with an Irish theme (his family came from Galway) are in the National Film Archive in Dublin

ROBIN THORNBER

film-maker born Reigate, Surrey 9 February 1924; married 1952 Gillian Berry (one son, three daughters); died Passage West, Co Cork 15 February 1999.

## Professor Margot Jefferys

MARGOT JEFFERYS was one of the tor of Social Research and Senior founders of medical sociology as an academic discipline. Her teaching and research over more than 30 years helped to establish the thinking, now commonplace, that came in 1968 with her appointment social factors contribute significantly to health.

The seeds of her career were sown in 1953 when she went to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. There she taught what later became known as medical sociology to public health doctors and general practitioners at postgraduate level. Her research into health and social services in Buckinghamshire resulted in the book An Anatomy of Social Welfare Services (1965).

During this period she developed networks of like-minded social scientists, including Ann Cartwright and Raymond Illsley, who gathered together to discuss issues such as social class and health. More formal gatherings at this time were less successful. One participant of the 1956 Medical Research Council-funded meeting at the London School on the role of sociology in medicine commented that medicine was looking for a docile wife but sociology was non-compliant. Jefferys was disappointed but undaunted.

In 1965 she was appointed Direc-

Lecturer in Sociology at Bedford College, London University, where she remained until retirement in 1982. Recognition of her subject as the first ever Professor of Medical Sociology. Following the Royal Commission on Medical Education (The Todd Report, 1968), she was invited to develop undergraduate medical sociology in the London medical

schools, now de rigueur nationwide. The masters degree in the sociology of medicine which Jefferys taught from 1969 became nationally and internationally renowned. Many of her students are now key players in medicine or sociology. Later, as a consultant to the World Health Organisation, she helped launch an international research programme in behavioural sciences and the soci-

ology of medical education. Her work with GPs was of crucial importance, both practical and academic. The seminal 1970 report of the British Medical Association Working Group on Primary Health Care which she chaired was perhaps the most independent of the BMA Planning Unit's reports. From that year to 1982 the DHSS funded her team on primary bealth care: Jefferys' Re-thinking General Practice: dilemmas in primary medical care,



Jefferys: medical dilemmas

co-authored with Hessie Sachs, appeared in 1983. In November 1988 the Royal College of General Practitioners gave her an Honorary Fellowship: one among many honours

accorded to her at home and abroad. She was born Margot Davies in India in 1916, coming to England aged eight to be educated at Berkhamsted School in Hertfordshire. She had started out as an economic historian, graduating in 1938 (with first class honours) from the London School of Economics. Her first academic appointment was at Bedford College in 1949, where she researched Mobility in the Labour Market (1954). Taught at LSE by R.H. Tawney and Eileen Powers, she retained throughout her life a strong commitment to thorough historical scholarship. A deep belief in equality, liberty and justice guided her life, in poli-

tics and academe. Events of the 1930s - mass unemployment, hunger marches, the civil war in Spain, Nazi persecution of Jews and political opponents - led her, as many other intellectuals, to the Communist Party. In this context she, with James Jefferys whom she married in 1941, became an ordinary worker in munitions factories in Coventry. Margot stayed in the CP until Soviet tanks crushed the Hungarian uprising in 1956 when, along with others who shared her values. she left. Thereafter she worked with former comrades in the "new left" to rethink the way forward.

After her "retirement" in 1982 Jefferys continued her research, publishing the well-received collection on ageing, Growing Old in the Twentieth Century (1989). This research and many national and international contributions continued while she held a visiting professorship at King's College Centre for Medical Law and Ethics.

Margot Jefferys had avoided the "doctor-bashing" label some sociologists earned - they sometimes thought she had become, in her words, "a doctors' moll". Not so: patients and doctors alike can be grateful for her ability to offer knowledge in a way the medical profession found salient.

This success was a direct reflection of the person she was: strong, independently minded, generous and loving. She helped many of us, talents, sometimes by sharp criticism. offering support in adversity Although not a Women's Liberation kind of feminist, she was particularly helpful to women, conscious of the disadvantages and difficulties we faced. MEG STACEY

Margot Davies, medical sociologist: born Madras 1 November 1916; Lecturer, Department of Public Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine 1953-65; Director of Social revival, excavating and celebrating Research, Bedford College, London University 1965-82, Senior itage of the working class. Lecturer in Sociology 1965-66, Reader 1966-68, Professor of Medical Sociology 1968-82 (Emeritus); married 1941 James Jefferys (two sons; marriage dissolved 1959); died London 3 March 1999.

Edey: a man of habit

WEALTHY ECCENTRICS are as designing oil refineries and Amerirare in America as they are com- ca's atomic-bomb plants. Edey was monplace in Europe; a Puritan cul-known as "Kelly", a diminutive of the than playboys. Winthrop Edey, how-sible. Kellogg's daughter, Edey's ever, was an exemplar of the Man- mother, a mainstay of the Associahattan eccentric who, like many so tion for Voluntary Surgical Contra-

Edey's expertise was in antique vasectomy clinic. Edey himself clocks and watches, and he was a grew up on Long Island, attended nonpareil scholar and collector. The Amherst College and the Institute of family funds which bankrolled his ex- Fine Arts in New York. ceptional collection removed Edey
He was equally knowledgeable trail Park wearing plaid Bermuda about ancient Egypt, 18th-century tenure, museum directorship or auction-house employment, any of which tice of photography. His social set incould have been his for the asking.

won gargantuan sums of money antiquarians. He knew the notorious of six. This massive, many-volumed

labelled, was also vastly learned. ception, set up the first outpatient

literature and the history and praccluded as many louche avant-gardists His middle initial, K, honoured his as elderly timepiece dealers, queens and his diary, an obsessive task grandfather Morris Kellogg, who had of the New York night along with which had occupied him since the age

Robert Mapplethorpe; Andy Warhol work covering more than 50 years included him in his 40-minute blackand-white silent film The 13 Most ture ensures that even the best very Kellogg which had made his life Beautiful Boys. This was in 1964, the endowed remain workers rather of leisure and connoisseurship possame year Warhol's painting The 13 Most Wanted Men was removed

Winthrop Edey

from the New York World's Fair. Edey was a man of habit, not just that of collecting. He maintained an impeccable townhouse on the Upper West Side exactly as it had been in the late 19th century, including working gas jets. He used to stroll in Cenwingtips. He awoke at precisely five in the afternoon.

At night he worked on his clocks

promises to be a revelatory document and even a potential bestseller, covering everything from of 19th-century leisureliness. Edey took with him a large and ancient camera; his interest in photography included taking his own old-fashioned images as well as collecting Man Ray.

A hint of Edey's impeccably recherché prose can be gained from the two books published in his lifetime. French Clocks (1967) was one of the first books in English on the subject: A knowledge of French clock-making A knowledge or French clock-making involves the study of many different subjects: cabinetmaking, bronze-casting the manufacture of machinery, the evolution of theories of time, sculpture, even porcelain, the composition of metals, and some astronomy.

This slim collector's guide also carries several plates of such rare clocks from his own collection as a Green Horn wall bracket by Gille Lainé from downtown 1960s Bohemia to travels 1745, a Tête de Poupée by Balthaz ar Martinot from 1680 and a Pendule Religieuse by Gosselin from 1660.

In 1982 the Frick Collection mounted the first important exhibition of French clocks in the United States. Edey was the guest curator and nine of the finest works were from his collection, though his name was modestly omitted from the list of lenders. It is to the Frick that Edey has left 39 pieces from his collection of around 60 clocks and watches, a donation of incomparable magni-American Collections, Edey demon- February 1999.

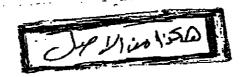
strated his taste in prose as well as timepieces:

After the Revolution, clock cases were less often worthy of the best movements, and less often the carefree sumptious objects that they had been. They gradually lost the fabled sweetness of the ancien régime, taking on in its place a harsh chill.

Elsewhere in this essay, Edey's ' words could serve as his own epitaph: Thus the market was much reduced, and a certain spirit of taste was killed, a taste that had taken centuries of increasingly refined living to develop.

Adrian Dannatt

Winthrop Kellogg Edey, clock coltude, as well as his diary. In the book lector and diarist: born New York of the Frick show, French Clocks in 18 June 1937; died New York 22



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## card after Where Do We Go Pho

LIKE MILLIONS of other radio listeners in the South East, I grew up with Adrian Love. He was part of life in London. Capital Radio saw to that, and later, his show Love in the Afternoon on BBC Radio 2 became a regular date for many nationwide.

the London station Capital Radio from 1976, though, he was the firm but fair presenter of a nightly phone in which was compulsive listening. He was no "mister nasty", a style which was in vogue among so many of his phone-in host colleagues at the time, but a man who seemed to talk just like the rest of us. Idiosyncratic perhaps, but he connected with people, and that was his strength. It did not matter whether it was a top international celebrity (and he knew many, as he often reminded us) or the postman delivering letters to his house near Edenbridge, in Kent, Love got close to people.

He coined a phrase on that programme at Capital that became the ultimate radio brand - to listeners it came to sum up the whole show. "Anna and the doc" was his description for the problem phone in he presented with the soony aunt Anna Raeburn and the doctor, whose name to this day eludes me. The show was an unforgettable insight into the lives of others.

To Anna Raeburn it was unforgettable for other reasons. She recalls her first show with Love, who was driving her to despair with his fidgeting. At the end, she laid into him: "While you are clicking and twitching, I am trying to do something for people." His reply was typically simple and disarmingly honest: You do realise I am terrified of you, don't you?"

Meeting him was a bit of a shock Listening on air, one built up a mental picture of a big man with that amazing vocal characteristic, a strange mix of sandpaper and fresh honey, with a pair of lungs that had fought the good fight with cigarettes and won. The reality was somewhat different. He was a tall lean pan who looked as though he could bend a week in a fast-food restaurant without showing signs of overeating.

The son of the bandleader Geoff Love, Adrian was born, in 1944, into a showbiz family. He told stories of how he entered the "business" as a child and never left it. He began his broadcasting career with the pirate radio station Radio City in 1966 and moved to the BBC Light Programme the next year, followed by work with the World Service. LBC and UBN (United Biscuits Network, the "biscuit factory" station, where he worked with Nicky Horn, Roger Scott and other radio icons).

## Adrian Love



Love in the studio at the launch of Classic FM in 1992

It would be easy to think that he had led a charmed life from the outset, but life was no picnic for Love. After a move from Capital to an award-winning show on Radio 1 he fell from grace; he was sacked in 1982 for presenting his show while drunk. He made no secret of his alcohol addiction, and even shared his experience with listeners.

He was a family man, and he gave credit to his wife Ros for getting him through the addiction that nearly fin-

sic FM was launched in September 1992. In more recent years he worked for the local BBC radio station Southern Counties Radio, broadcasting to Surrey and Sussex.

Love had an inner strength which you could bear on the air, and which helped him through his alcohol addiction. Unknown to many, he used that strength to help others, through charity fundraising. It also showed in his unnerving enthusiasm to get back to work after a car ished him off. He frequently shared per-sonal moments from his family life on to continued ill-health. Simon Bates, a

He had an amazing vocal characteristic, a strange mix of sandpaper and fresh honey

ated with his listeners.

He moved from Love in the Afternoon on Radio 2 to Jazz FM. He then became part of the starting line-up when Clas-

air; Ros and Love's three daughters be-former colleague from Radio 1 decame part of the bigger family he cre-scribed Love's burning enthusiasm for his radio programmes as "exhausting for everyone else".

During what his colleages hoped would be his recuperation from his operation, a couple of us went to visit him at his house. We expected to see a man who was somewhat frail, but he would have none of it, he was full of life: "OK boys, what's the gossip, and when can I get back on the air? Let's start with the goss first."

Adrian Love did get back on the air, but it was not long before his hings, weakened by a lifetime of asthma attacks, took him off again. He will be remembered by colleagues at Southern Counties as the consummate professional - especially when things didn't quite go the way they were planned - for being unflappable in the face of adverse odds, and for being a friend, not just to those who knew him, but to the listeners, who loved him. As one listener put it, "He was a friend to everybody. I never met him, I didn't even know what he looked like, but he was like a best friend to me."

daughters, one stepdaughter); died Tunbridge Wells, Kent 10 March 1999.

CHRIS LOVEDER Adrian Love, disc jockey: born York 3 August 1944; three times married (two



TECHNOLOGICAL NOTES

## Computers with no common sense

WITH COMPUTER power (Moore's Law), some experts in artificial intelligence are now bragging that by 2050, robots will surpass the intelligence of humans. They boast that their creations may one day treat us like pets, too feeble and stupid to take care of ourselves. Robots will inherit the earth, and perhaps place us in zoos. The scientists at Carnegie-Mellon Institute, with the largest robotics laboratory in the world, even claim that we are creating our own Darwinian successors, that it's our evolution-

as if it's a law of nature. But not so fast! The rosy claims of these mathematicians are not without some merit, but they have been made before, with laughable results. As a physicist, I must note that there are a few tiny roadblocks in their predictions, such as the laws

ary duty to prepare the way

for super-intelligent robots.

of physics. It's true that Moore's Law has successfully predicted the staggering growth of computers for the past 50 years. This means that every Christmas, our computer gadgets are almost twice as powerful as the previous year's. It's also true that our brains, even when daydreaming, compute at more than 500 trillion bytes per second. By Moore's Law, our chips should hit about 500 trillion bytes per second by 2050.

stance, Moore's Law will collapse way before 2050. In fact, by 2020, transistors will become so small, they will appears proach the size of DNA coils. Unfortunately, silicon is not structurally stable at such tiny distances. Silicon Valley may become a Rust Belt by 2020 - the Age of Silicon will end, causing chaos in the

computer business. After 2020, physicists will have to replace silicon with very speculative designs. such as computers which compute on laser beams, DNA molecules, protein molecules, or single electrons. There's also the ultimate computer, the "quantum computer", which is so advanced that no prototypes

even exist. These are all highly risky designs, so all bets are off after 2020. Furthermore, scientists have not solved the problem of "common sense". Computers don't know the things that even children know.

Computers don't know that water is wet, that animals don't like pain, that mothers are older than their children, that twins age at the same rate, and that when you die you don't come back the next day. How do we know these common-sense things? By experience. But that's precisely what computers don't have. Worse, mathematicians believe that several hundred million statements of common sense are required be-

But there are also tremen- fore a robot can reason like doubling every 18 months dous roadblocks. For in a child. This staggering amount of common sense has effectively stopped progress in artificial intelligence for the

> Finally, computers don't see very well. One of the most advanced robots is the Mars Rover, currently on the planet Mars. Although the Mars Rover captured the imagination of nullions of people around the world, it has the intellmence of a cotarded cockroach Even a cockrazeli knows how to the when southed on your latchers table. If a Martian were to swatthe Mars Rover with its tentacle, the Rover would take several hours to realise that the tentacle was not a rock!

> This is not to say that we won't have computer marvels. by 2050. By then, chips will cost a fraction of a penny, the cost of bubblegum wrappers. We will have computers in our watches, clothes, jewellery, furniture, walls, appliances, and perhaps inside our bodies. And we will talk to them in English, albeit a highly stylised and simple English. But don't expect to have robot butlers or maids by 2050.

In other words, don't worry; the mathematicians are wrong. Humanity is not doorned to live in a cage after 2050. (Unless, of course, we physicists can invent the quantum computer . . .)

Michio Kaku is the author of

## GAZETTE

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

**DEATHS** 

WILLANS: James Lindsay, aged
88. Died peacefully on 7 March
at the John Radcliffe Hospital.
Oxford, after a short illness.
Much loved father of Lindsay,
Sarah and Jolyon, steplather of
Mary, Richard and Stephen
Castle, grandfather and great
grandfather Funeral at Oxford
Crematorium, 3pm Wednesday
17 March. Family flowers only
ant donations for the John
Madcliffe Hospital Charitable
Fund may be sent to Reeves &
Pain Funeral Directors, 28
Abingdon Road, Oxford OX1
4TE. A Thanksgiving Service
will be held at Rugby School at
2.30pm on 24 April.

IN MEMORIAM

BARR: Frederick, died on Thurs-day 12 March 1992. Much loved.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra), OTHER Gazette announcements (nations) functions, Forthcoming mar-riages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing. are charged at £10 a line. VAT extra. Always include a davitme telephone number.

The Independent's switchboard

## **BIRTHDAYS** Sir Antony Acland, Provost

of Eton, and former

diplomat, 69: Dr Giovanni Agnelli, chairman, Istituto Finanziario Industriale, 78; Mr Edward Albee, playwright, 71; Mr Ronald Alley. artist and former Keeper of Modern Art, Tate Gallery, 73; Mrs Virginia Bottomley MP, 51; Mr Norbert Brainin, violinist, 76; Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue, former Director of the Royal Collection, 68; Mr Peter Gwynn-Jones, Garter Principal King of Arms, 59; Lord Hogg of Cumbernauld, former MP, 61; Mr Philip Jones, former principal, Trinity College of Music, London, 71; Mr David Mellor QC, former MP, 50; Miss Liza Minnelli, actress and singec, 53; Mr David Mlinaric, interior decorator, 60; Mr Nicholas Montagu, chairman, Board of Inland Revenue, 55; Mr Roland . Moyle, barrister and former government minister, 71; Mr Patrick Procktor, painter, 63; Mr Raiph Shapey, composer and conductor, 78; Miss Gudrun Ure, actress,

73; Miss Elizabeth

62: Lord Wallace of

Vanghan, operatic soprano,

Saltaire, Reader in Interna-

tional Relations, London

School of Economics, 58;

former general secretary,

Mr David Oliver Williams.

Cohse, 73; Mr David Wilmot, chief constable, Greater Manchester Police, 56; Miss Googie Withers, actress, 82.

**ANNIVERSARIES** 

Births: André de Lenôtre, landscape architect. 1613: Thomas Augustine Arne. composer of "Rule, Britannia", 1710: Vaslav Fomich Nijinsky, dancer, 1890; Jack (Jean-Louis) Kerouac, novelist 1922. Deaths: Frans van Mieris the Elder painter. 1681; Anne Frank, young Jewish diarist, at Bergen-Beisen 1945. On this day: the Bermudas became an English colony, 1609; the foundation stone of the Australian capital Canberra was laid, 1913; in Britain a 30mph speed limit was imposed for cars in built-up areas, 1935. Today is the Feast Day of St Alphege of Winchester, St Bernard of Capua, St Maximilian of Theveste, St Paul Aurelian or of Leon, Saints Peter, Gorgonius and Dorotheus, St Seraphina or Fina and St Theophanes the Chronicler.

**LECTURES** 

British Museum: Helen Glaister, "The Female Form: the contrasting styles of India and China", 11.30am;

Rowena Loverance, "Images of the Virgin Mary", 2.30pm. National Gallery: Norman Coady, "Cats and Dogs (ii): Veronese, Christ addressing a Kneeling Woman", 1pm. Victoria and Albert

Museum: Frances Musker, "Dress and Textiles in the 17th Century", 2pm. Centre for Regional Studies, Anglia Polytechnic University, Cambridge: Dr J. Kemble, "Researching Place

**PROFESSOR** NICHOLAS KURTI

Names", 8.30pm.

A memorial meeting for Professor Nicholas Kurti CBE FRS will be held on Saturday 27 March at 3pm in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford.

> SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 5.45pm. United Synagogues: 0181-343 8989. Federation of Synagogues 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal oisi-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1663. Reform Syna-gogues of Great Britain: 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Synagogue (Masoril): 0171-328 1026.

### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen visits HM Customs & Excise VAT Collection Centre

in Southend. The Duke of Edinburgh visits Keymed (Medical and Industrial Equipment) I id in Southend and as Chancellor, Cambridge Universi ty, attends a reception and din-ner at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visit South East Essex College, Southend; visit Basildon District Council offices, Basildon, to mark the 50th Anniversary of the foundation of Basildon New Town; visit the Towngate Theatre in Basildon Centre, Basildon; and visit the newly passion; and visit the newly erected Bell Tower of St Mar-tin's Church, Basildon, and attend a service of thanksgiving at the church to mark the 58th at the church to mark the 50th anniversary of the foundation of Basildon New Town. The Duke of York, Patron, Badminton Society of England, attends the 1999 All England Badminton Championship at the National Indoor Arena, Birmingham. The Duke of Kent, Colonel, Son's Guards, visits the Scots Guards, visits the Guards Training Company at the Infantry Training Centre, Catterick, North Yorkshire.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mount ed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battation Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Irish Guards.

### THE OBLIGATION on a local education authority to have REPORT

regard to parental preference with regard to choice of school, imposed by section 9 of the Education Act 1996, was not excluded in the case of children with special edu-

cational needs by paragraph 3 of Schedule 27 to the Act. The Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the High Court, dismissing the appellants' appeal against a decision of a Special Educational Needs Tribunal that their son should attend a mainstream school maintained by the local education authority rather than an in-

dependent school of their choice. The appellants' son was seriously dyslexic and had special educational needs. The respondent local education authority, in its statement of special educational needs made pursuant to s 324 of the Education Act 1996, refused to specify the school which the appellants considered appropriate for him.
The appellants appealed to

a Special Educational Needs Tribunal against that refusal, and the tribunal concluded that the child should attend a mainstream secondary school maintained by the respondent, rather than an independent boarding school favoured by the appellants.

The appellants appealed to the High Court on the ground that the tribunal had erred in law in holding that section 9 of the 1996 Act, which provided for the expression by a parent of a preference as to the school at which he wished his child to be educated, had no application in a special educational needs case.

The judge agreed that the

AWOL, ANTHONY Burgess's

## FRIDAY LAW

Parental preference

was not excluded

12 MARCH 1999

Catchpole and another v Buckinghamshire County Council and another

> Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Sedley) 9 March 1999

tribunal had been in error, but upheld the respondent's submission that a correct appreciation of the law could have made no difference to the outcome of the appeal before the tribunal. He therefore dismissed the appeal. The appellants appealed.

Nicholas Bowen (Teacher Stern Selby) for the appellants: Peter Oldham (Buckinghamshire County Council) for the respondent.

Lord Justice Sedley said that the respondent contended that the Act contained a selfcontained code which gave parents much firmer rights, and which made section 9 redundant, in special educational needs cases. Paragraph 3(3) of Schedule

27 made it mandatory for the had in a decision which had fully statement of special educational needs to name the school preferred by the parents unless and the respondent's choices, it was unsuitable for the child or incompatible with the efficiency of the school or the efficient use of resources.

WORDS

Although that was in far stronger terms than the provisions of section 9 of the Act. which established no more than an obligation to have regard for a general principle of parental preference, qualified likewise by considerations of efficiency and expense, paragraph 3(1) of Schedule 27 contained the limitation that the expressed preference for a child with special educational needs had to be for a school in the state sector, whether mainstream or special. That limitation did not, however, by necessary implication exclude the broader principle expressed in section 9.

There was nothing in the Act to suggest that the general principle that pupils were to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents was intended to be disregarded in relation to children with special educational needs. The global effect of the Act was that in special educational needs cases a duly expressed parental preference for a state sector school was binding in the absence of a disqualifying factor, while an expressed preference for an independent school was to be considered, together with the reasons for it, in the light of the principle enunciated in section 9.

Notwithstanding that, the judge had been right in the present case to hold that the error of the tribunal, occurring as it addressed the educational merits of the both the appellants' could not have affected the outcome of the appeal.

KATE O'HANLON Barrister

## CALLS TO THE BAR

Lincoln's Inn Timothy Paul Manteit ato Sinnappan Donardi, Lesley Jean Harwoot: Abul Mousar Shahjahan; Dr Simon John Sievenson; Mary Regina Gibbons; Chong Sha Yir, Ruby Selvanayagam; Andrew Charles Bury, Penelope Iona Richardson; David Andrew Rythin; Haroon Rashid; Rodarick Lan James; James Brendon Corrish; Gulun Alexin der Hawkins; Francesco Maria Lov. James Brendon Corrist; Quinn Alexander Hawkins; Francesca Maris Loy;
Sremy Ymn Hsin Choo; David Allen
Jehor Green; Barry Ian Torrens; Hark
Eliward Samdens; Neil Martin Ashley;
Adeola Ohijumoke Adeoso; Aaron Wong
Kang Way; Robert James Teucer Craig;
Adique Rahman Chowdhuy; Nige
David Harrington Edwards; Elizabeth Adams Harwick Tariu Khan; William John Houseley; Roberl John Walton; Rayeathi Rajendra; Constantinus Halouns; Navin Surath Maranana; Sharimi Palar; Sharanjezt Esur Bhachu; Daniel Joseph Wice.
Pamala Ann Howes; Anthony Michael Quanu; Ryan Jerome Thompson; Jane Danvers; Malthew Alvin Lloren; Zaimlabelin Baltin Jafferji; S.M. Adhar Bahamar; Anthony Mark Sani; Pensahamar, Anthony Mark Sani; Pensahamar, Anthony Mark Sani; Pensahamar, Anthony Mark Sani; Pensahamar, Anthony Mark Sani; Pensahamar,

summ susepa Suamon; Michelle Louise Brewer, Ranjeet Dulay; Timothy James (Lemente Grey; David Erteson Grant; Dale Robert Sullivan; Lucy Ade-laide Daniels; Victoria Robertson; Susan Diane Darlington-Peorce. In abcentis: Mark Robert Seepersad

Middle Temple

Matthew Hall.

Harry Francis Gregory Mount; Simon
James Cridend; Kevin Molicy, Leila
Penelope Pilgrim; Archana Sinha;
Caryne Sue Lyan Say, Emma Jayne
Messenger; Nasrven Akhter Tincy;
David Arnott Craig McDowell; Helen
Louise Whitehouse; Lauren Jane! Beck,
Rasina Rubin Mohideen; Ian William

Gray's 100

Derek Eurt Walkner, George Charles Wellcaley Spencer: Deirdre Manra Robleson;
Glende Mary Rogers, Nicole Natacha
Allen; Ermma Louise Piedge; Jayanthi
Mahalingam; Maria-Terena Expandoiz;
Sara Philly: Jonathan Robert Pani Rogcri; Edward Osammor, Andreas Thomas;
Samandha Nimali de Silve; Adam Anthony Suzin; Paul Jeffery Scothern; Gareth
Rees; Clace Jonith Woodford; Deard William Gibson; Simon Ash; Simon Thomas
Carras; Jonathan Naytor Sharpe; Claire
Bostock; James Richard Crawfort; Michael
Wyn Jones; Gibert John Marcas; Starieb Erlen Weiner; Richard Andrew Keith
Goddard; David Vanghan Lewig; Sarah
Lesme Peters; Michael James Bradley.

Gray's Inn

A Mouthful Of Air surfaced in my box of cookery books and opened at page 185: we still have the Germanie gar in 'gorlie'."

**CHRISTOPHER** HAWTREE

garlic, n. This ran in the great Burgess's blood (language, Old English for spear and and garlic). The OED un-

leek (as our century shows, soundly defines life's joy as German means spear man). an "acrid" taste but does scholar and New Statesman flower oil and turn. Ah! note the compound of the

food correspondent Bee Wilson has triumphed on Masterchef. Cut from the broadcast was Lovd Grossman's remark that he could eat her fried garlic "by the bucketful, like popcorn": peel many bulbs, blanch in water; drain; repeat; blanch in stock; mix egg, flour, Meanwhile, the Slavonic breadcrumbs; fry in sun-

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number. Bye-bye Cindy, Linda, Christy and now Naomi... They say the supermodel era is over. What can they mean? By Susannah Frankel

## Never say never again

aomi Campbell: The Last Supermodel?" ponders the March issue American Vogue, in a more measured fashion than the majority of the press, which has been revelling in melodramatic tales of Campbell's demise this week. It is not insignificant that it is this particular magazine that publishes the full story: a model's status can rise and fall in its glossy pages overnight. What American Vogue says, goes.

According to Vogue, then, Campbell, who has been modelling for 13 years, has just signed her first worldwide cosmetics contract with Wella - which will doubtless turn out to be more lucrative, and certainly a whole lot easier, than working the international runways, despite the fact that she reportedly earns \$41,000 (£65,000) a show. She has recently finished work on a film, the Canadian independent Prisoner of Love, due for release later this year. For the past two years. Campbell has also worked with Nelson Mandela to raise awareness for his Children's Fund. He has described the model as his honorary granddaughter.

It may all sound like the stuff of a particularly clichéd TV mini-series but Campbell has also - and to her credit - continually spoken out against racism in the fashion industry: compared to her (white) supermodel sisters she has graced far fewer covers and has failed - until Wella came along - to sign up with a cosmetics company. As a catwalk model, unlike some of her less politically aware contemporaries, she resists being lumbered with the token "exotic" outfit.

So why does the world love to hate endary tantrums, of course. She famously attacks unsuspecting women who cross her path, from other models who are allocated out-



Devon Aoki is not nearly as expensive as Naomi Campbell, nor as difficult

personal assistant (of nine days, last autumn) Georgina Galanis, who is filing a \$2m lawsuit against her claiming Campbell grabbed her by the throat, punched her and hit her on the head with one of her many Naomi Campbell? There are the leg-mobile phones. These are hardly enough to justify the glee with which the media reports that she and the likes of Cindy Crawford, Christy Turlington and Linda Evangelista. fits she'd like to wear, to her former are headed for troubled times.

At the end of last year, People magazine splashed the words "Supermodel Meltdown" across its cover - the British press followed suit. The story was that magazines were relying on celebrities rather than models to boost circulation. American Vogue had Oprah Winfrey and Hillary Clinton; arch-rival Horper's Bazaar preferred girlfriendand-boyfriend team Cameron Diaz and Matt Dillon. In the UK, Martine McCutcheon is Marie Claire's March cover girl, soon to be superseded by Monica Lewinsky shot by Patrick Demarchelier, the man responsible for the British *Vogue* 

cover of Diana, Princess of Wales. That is only one side of the story, however This month, Kate Moss who, like Campbell, is often described as the last of the supermodels, is on the cover of every magazine from W to Dozed & Confused, and from ES to The Face. Cindy Crawford, Campbell, Linda **Evangelista and Christy Turlington** were on the cover of last year's bestselling issue of American Elle.

It is ironic that the most recent Fall of the Supermodel story was generated by a reported rift between the designer Donatella Versace and Naomi Campbell. Campbell – who has appeared in every Versace show since Gianni Versace died in July 1997 - was conspicuous by her absence at the Versace shows in Milan last week. The pair have by now made their peace, however, which is entirely predictable. The twice-yearcollections held in New York, London, Milan and Paris are famous for generating just this type of spat. Camobell has seemed on fine form on the catwalks for both Antonio Berardi and Louis Vuitton.

It must have been tough on her, none the less, despite claims that it was her own decision not to appear and especially as Gianni Versace was the man responsible for the rise of the supermodel and their celebrity status in the first place. Versace realised that if he boasted even one



Out with the old: Evangelista, Crawford, Campbell, Turlington - Versace, 1991; in with the new, Devon at Versus, left Chris Moore

big-name star on his catwalk exclusively, the column inches it would generate would be worth far more than their weight in gold.

The moment that encapsulates the supermodel phenomenon at its most brazenly glamorous is best attributed to Gianni Versace. When he sent Campbell, Turlington, Evangelista and Crawford down the runway en masse, miming the words to George Michael's "Freedom" (they had recently starred in the video) in March 1991, he made fashion history. Here were four women who were as self-confident as they were beautiful: model role models, they exuded money, power and self-confidence in a milieu that is famous for its exploitation of young women. This precedent was set in the Six-

ties. Whereas in the Fifties, modelling was the preserve of aristocratic women making a respectable living as a prelude to finding wealthy husbands, by the next decade, cheeky chappie photographers such as David Bailey and Terence Donovan aesthetic was less wholesome: they Christy Turlington claims to this day Aoki - the latter (pictured left) is the

preferred the look of underdeveloped, even prepubescent women.

The model fared no better in the Seventies. The fresh-faced, girlnext-door looks of the Shrimp and her ilk were replaced by the more decadent likes of Jerry Hall - discovered when an agent placed his card in her bikini bottoms at Cannes - and Marie Helvin. This was the decade of the shark agent, when drugs took hold of the industry - in particular, cocaine. It was not until the Eighties that

the supermodel was born - and the media's love-hate relationship with her began. Designers recognised their potential, the media couldn't get enough of them and, as still very young girls, they unsurprisingly lapped up the attention. The supermodels turned the image of model as (fashion) victim on its head, demanding inflated sums of money and terrorising designers, agents, photographers, hairdressers and make-up artists alike. They said things like "I don't get out of bed introduced sex to the equation - for less than \$10,000 a day" (Lindaoften, it seems, at first hand. Their Evangelista, 1990). Her friend Elsen, Erin O'Connor and Devon

that this throwaway comment was intended to be ironic.

None the less, only a few seasons

later, a backlash ensued and the very people who made these women stars in the first place (Versace is a notable exception) couldn't wait to slap them down. They were simply too young, too beautiful and too rich to be tolerated. They had risen to fame in the Eighties, the most egodriven, power-thrusting era of them all. By the mid- "caring sharing" Nineties, the less in-your-face superwaif Kate Moss was hot property. She was less obviously manufactured, skinny, stringyhaired and looked prepubescent (again). The supermodels still loomed large, however, even if the media's excuse was negative publicity. Naomi Campbell, in particular,

continues to do so. By the time President Clinton called attention to the heroin chic controversy a few years later, fashion had moved on again. For the past few seasons, more anonymous models are the order of the day. Karen

new face of Donatella's Versus line - are neither as expensive as Naomi Campbell, nor as difficult. They represent a less predictable sort of beauty than their supermodel predecessors.

Fresher on the scene, however, the more obviously lovely Gisele and Carmen Kass do more resemble the Campbells and Crawfords of this world. None is likely to become a household name, howeverthe Zeitgeist wouldn't accommodate it - which is why magazines, both here and abroad, are retracing the celebrity route.

That leaves Naomi - and only Naomi - as the last supermodel to regularly appear at the shows in person. Her contemporaries prefer to leave the collections to young blood, taking the world by storm with the odd, exclusive, photographic appearance.

Campbell said this week that, these days, she sometimes feels like "Grandma" on the catwalk, a poignant observation for a woman who's still only 28. Despite that we simply can't get enough of her -

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## **CLASSIFIED**

**Public Notices** 



THE RAILWAYS ACT 1993 Application for Licence Exemption by AHC (Warehousing) Limited ("the Applicant") Company Registration Number: 1670942 Principal address of the Applicant: Mathieson Road

West Bank Dock Estate Cheshire, WAS ONX Directors of the Applicant: James Harold Quinn Edith Ouing William Frederick Coleman Shirley Janette Pettit Angela Collette Trevett Andrew James Quinn Patrick Alan Davenport

The Rail Regulator hereby gives notice in accordance with section 7 (4) of the Railways Act ("the Act") 1993 that he proposes to grant the Applicant an exemption from the requirement to be authorised by licence to operate the network comprised within the Widnes nternational Rail Freight Terminal, on the ground that he does not consider it appropriate for the provisions of the Act to be applied to such a railway asset. Any person who wishes to make any representation or objection with respect to the proposed exemption should send such representation

Assta Diarra Paysenger Services Group, Office of the Rail Regulator, 1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Hollsom, London ECIN 2TQ met later than 9 April 1990.

A plan showing the extent of the railway to which the proposed network licence exemption applies is available for inspection at the above address between 10.00 and 16.00 hours on any working day. Dated 12 Merch 1999.

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS RELATING TO THE LYS

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act 1962 and section 129 of the Railways Act 1993 that LTS Rail Limited have mide byelms relating to the LTS Rail Limited railway and intend to apply to the Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions for his confirmation.

A copy of the byelaws in respect of which application for confirmation is to be made can be inspected free of charge for a period of 23 days starting from the date of this notice appearing, between the hours of 900 and 1000 Monday to Enday at the LTS Rail Limited resistered office. Central House, Cliftown Road, Southend-on-Sea. Esset SSI IAB and from the broking offices at Southend Central Station, Basildon Station, Grays Station and Fenchurch Street Station and a copy thereof can be obtained on payment of a charge of 30p either by attending or by action to my of those places.

During the 23 day period any person affected by the new byclaws may make representation to the Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions by writing to him at the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions, Zone 3.73 (Bre-laws), Great Mirester House, 76 Marsham Street, London SWIP 4RF. Dated Friday (2th March, 1949).

Company Secretary for and on behalf of LTS Rail Limited, Central House, Chinown Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SSI 1Als.

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT. TRANSPORT
AND THE REGIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS
RELATING TO THE WEST ANGLIA GREAT NORTHERN
Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act 1962 and
section 129 of the Railway Limited Pauliway
Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act 1962 and
section 129 of the Railway Act 1963 that West Augha Great Northern
Railway Limited have made byelsow relyting to the West Augha Great
Northern Railway Limited railway and insend to apply to the Secretary of
State for Environment, Transport and the Regions for his confirmation is
to be made can be in-spectred free of charge for a period of 23 days starting
from the date of this notice appearing, between the hours of 9.01 and
16.011 Monday to Friday at the West Anglia Great Northern Railway
Limited registered office, Hertford House, I Craimwood Street, London
ECU V 9GT, and at the offices of the Customer Services Manager, Station
Buildings, Station Rusal, Cambridge CBI 21W, the Station Supervisor,
West Anglia Great Northern Railway, Liverpool
Street Station and a copy thereof can be obtained on programm of a charge
of 5th cilies by attending or by writing to any of those places.
During the 2-day period any person affected by the new byelaws may
make representation to the Secretary of State for Environment,
Transport and the Regions, Zone 5-31 (Bye-Lws), Great Northern
Transport and the Regions, Zone 5-31 (Bye-Lws), Great Northern
Common Secretars, for and on behalf of West Anglia Great Northern
Common Secretars, for and on behalf of West Anglia Great Northern

Dated Friday 12th March 1990 Company Secretars for and on behalf of West Anglia Great Northern Radway Limited, Hestford House, I Cramwood Street, London ECTV 9CT

PETTY SESSIONAL DIVISION OF BECHMOND CHON THAMES NOTICE OF APPLICATION PROVISIONAL JUSTICES ON-LICENCE

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CATIN LAGER OUR HANDS the 96 day of March 1999

37 Stoney Street, The Lace Mar Notington MCI 115

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POPPLISTON ALLEN
Solictors for and on behalf of the applicant
The Large Market,

FAX 01424 871002

The insolvency Act 1986 BARKWOOD CONSTRUCTION (LIMITED)

NOTICE IS HEREIY GIVEN pursuant to Section 93 of the herolymory Act 1950 that a mediant of creditors of the above company, will be held at the White Heres Hereit Lygan Road, Watsord, Heres Will 15t, or Monday, 23th March 1955 at 1205 am for the pursors of declaring with Sections 99 in 101 of the incoherence Act 1956. Section of creditors tunkes they surrounded their section's and at solute at they work to write at the meeting. Autil lest of the nations and addresses of their section and of the section and 500 pm on the two baseness days pursual to the Act of this meeting, Fortim of proxy if strended to be used, must be duly completed and lodged at the registered district of the company, not first that 1200 from on the Broad the registered district of the company, and futer than 1200 from on the Broad has done of the company, not futer than 1200 from on the Broad has done of the company, and futer than 1200 from on the Broad has done of the company. business downdoor the meeting. Dured this 4th day of March 1999 By Order of the Board PJ Nortis, Director

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE IS FIERERY OFFEN.

PURSUANT TO Section 95 of the Insolvency Act 1956, that a Meeting of Creditors of the abwe named Company will be held at Bow Chambers, 5 Tib Lane, Marchester M2 4JB on Tuesday to March 1999 at 12JD poon, for the name of the presentation of Sections. purposes meaturned in Sections 94, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Section 98(2) of the Act less of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for importion tree of charge at the offices of Messes Cason Beckman & Partners, Baw Chambers, S Tib Lune, Manchester M2-11B on the two brances days calling next

P Williams (Charman) Dated the 19th day of February 1999 THE DISOLVENCY BULES 1986 HAVEN PROPERTY SUPPORT LIMITED IN LIQUIDATION NOTICE of HEEST GROW pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that Veghes Frankin of Panos Hades Particle S Co. 6 Bromatoly Speare, London WCTA 2P was appointed Liganties of the Mose named Company on 5 March 1993 by Members and Centures

ALL PARTY

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS RELATING TO THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED RAILWAY

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO

RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED RAILWAY

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section of of the Transport Act 1962 and section 129 of the Railways Act 1993 that Cardiff Railway Company Limited have made byelaws relating to the Cardiff Railway Company Limited native and steed to apply to the Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions for his confirmation.

A copy of the byelaws in respect of which application for confirmation is to he made can be usspected free of charge for a period of 28 days starting from the date of this notice appearing, between the brows of 9.00 and 16.00 Monday to Friday at the Cardiff Railway Company Limited registered office. Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CP2 15A and the ticket office at Cardiff Queen Street Statton and a copy thereof can be obtained on poyment of a charge of 50p cither by attending or by writing to either of those places.

During the 28 day period any person affected by the new byelaws may make representation to the Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions by writing to him at the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions London SW1P 4RP.

Dated Friday 12th March 1999

Company Secretary for and on behalf of Cardiff Railway Company

Company Secretary for and on behalf of Cardiff Railway Company Limited, Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF2 ISA.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS RELATING

CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS RELATING
TO THE WALES & WEST PASSENGER TRAINS
LIMITED RAILWAY
Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act
1902 and section 129 of the Railways Act 1993 that Wates & West
Passenger Trains Limited have made by-claws relating to the Wates &
West Passenger Trains, Limited railway and intend to apply to the
Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions for his
confirmation.

confirmation.

A copy of the byelaws in respect of which application for confirmation is to be made can be inspected free of change for a period of 28 days starting from the date of this notice appearing, between the hours of 9,00 and 16,00 Monday to Friday at the Wales & West Passenger Trains Limited registered office, Brunet House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF2 ISU and at the Gameester, Penzance and Thro Railway stations and a copy thereof can be obtained on payment of a charge of 50p either by attending or by writing to any of those places.

During the 28 day period any person affected by the new byelaws may make representation to the Secretary of State for Environment. Tristsport and the Regions by writing to him at the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions, Zone 3/13 (Bye-laws), Great Murster House, 76 Marsham St, London SWIP 4RP.

Dated Friday 12th March 1990

Company Secretary for and on behalf of Wales & West Passenger Trains Limited, Brustel House, 2 Fitzatan Road, Cartiff CF2 ISU.

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## My mate Jimmy

I COULD never stop being astonished at meeting famous people. Last year I interviewed Jimmy Hill, and it was a battle not to shout "Christ almighty, you're Jimmy bloody Hill, off the telly, who everyone takes the piss out of. Someone take a picture or my mates will never believe me".

But nothing compares to being on Radio 4's Any Questions, live from Sandwich. As I sat among the commuters on the train through Kent, I vacillated between two thoughts: "Wahey, I'm on Any Questions!", and "Assagh. I can't argue with cabinet ministers on the radio - I got kicked out of a Comprehensive school and still eat chips in the road."

At the station, I was met by Gerald Kaufman and Jonathan Dimbleby, and transported a hundred yards by leatheruphoistered Jag to a hotel. There, as we entered, were tables laden with immaculately prepared fish, salads, meats, triffes, and cheeses, which were clearly for show. I nibbled a salmon, and listened to Gerald Kaufman tell a story about going to Nicaragua with Harold. Not "my mate Harold", or "this bloke called Harold", but

"Harold", as in Harold Wilson. Again the instincts had to be quelled. For normally, hearing someone say this, I'd say "Oh right. You went to Nicaragua with Haroid Wilson, did you? Well, I went to Guatemala with Benjamin Disraeli".

This was worrying. Here was a leading government politician, and he was genuinely fascinating and honestly charming. What if during the programme he said something outrageous? I'd go to deliver a furning tirade, and then think, "But he's ever so pleasant. And he passed the paté without me asking".

This is a process which dampens all journalists and MARK STEEL



ON LOCATION

politicians. Formally, they might stay as radical as when their career began, but over time their speeches lose their edge and evolve into playful banter. Kenneth Clarke is probably charming. And Peter Mandelson, and Ann Widdecombe. I bet there were journalists in Cambodia who said "But when you get to know him, Pol does tell amusing

anecdotes". As it transpired, it was the novelist Frederick Forsyth who was the potty one on the programme. Responding to the Macpherson Report, he launched into tub-thumping praise of police activities. This won initial support from the audience, most of whom were members of an organisation called something like The Order of the Sandwich and District Society of Aldermen, Anglican Parishioners. Yeomanry, Scones, and Home-Made Marmalade.

The men wore Kent County Cricket Club ties, and the women had silk scarves and pearls. This is the land of Daily Telegraph readers and gravelly drives. Yet Forsyth's outstanding achievement was to be so rude that he turned this audience into supporters of the ranting Trot - he began one outburst against me with "I've FORGOTTEN more about history than you ever knew - bov".

"I must say, young man", said a chap in a blazer at the reception afterwards, "I don't know how you restrained yourself from clocking him one".

"You're making me feel I was soft on him," I replied. He then leaned into my ear and said in a marvellously clipped RAF accent, "I rather think you were".

Then someone clapped their hands and said they'd like to thank everyone who'd worked so jolly hard to make the evening such a success, and "Last but by no means least, may I thank Mrs Whittaker, who's surpassed herself again with her sausage rolls".

Their enthusiasm made it impossible not to feel affection for the burghers of Sandwich. It would be easy to write off these people as irredeemable Thatcherites. But most of them are still subject to the fallout of government and economic turbulence. Their local transport has been dismantled, their hospital is under threat, and a local headmaster lamented the damage done to education in the area by selective schooling. Equally, it would be

fascinating to get to know leading politicians personally, to enjoy their company, and chortle at their whimsical tales of sharing a hotel room with Harold Macmillan. But how easy it must be to slip, without realising it, comfortably into their world, so that the next time someone screamed about tuition fees or attacks on single parents, you thought "Oh, but Jack and David and Robin are lovely people really".

I know. Because I recently overheard someone slagging off Jimmy Hill. And I only just stopped myself from saying "Oi mate, don't be like that 'Cos once you get to know him he's a really nice bloke". And he is. Honestly.

new, Deven at Versus, left Christ.

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## Susannah Franke

## SCIENCE

Scientists have long struggled to date the Universe. Now they've reached a final conclusion. By John Gribbin

## Older than the stars

ince last year, there has been overwhelming cosmological evidence that the Universe is a couple of billion years older than the ages of stars, when calculated from astronomical evidence.

That seems logical enough, but in the mid-Nineties apparent evidence that the Universe is younger than the stars it contains made headlines. providing scope for stories poking in at the supposed stupidity (or competence) of astronomers. In the last couple of years this crisis in cosmology has been resolved. Yet aithough the crisis itself was big news, the resolution of the crisis has passed almost unnoticed.

Astronomers measure the age of the Universe by measuring how fast the galaxies – systems like our Milky Way, each containing hundreds of billions of stars - are receding from each other. The faster the galaxies are moving apart, the less time it must have taken them to get to their present state since the Big Bang. The snag is that you have to relate the speeds (which are quite easy to measure, using the red shift in the light from galaxies) to the distances between the galaxies

Baade finding that Hubble's data had been mis-calibrated was a landmark

today (which is quite hard to measure). This relationship is measured in terms of a number called Hubble's Constant, {\i H}, named after Edwin Hubble, who discovered the expansion 70 years ago. A bigger value of (\i H) implies a smaller age for the Universe.

Hubble's own estimates of (\i H) were so big that they implied that the Universe was born less than 2 billion years ago. This was embarrassing, since even in the init Seologists knew that the Earth itself as roughly twice that old. So it was a major landmark in cosmology when Walter Baade found that Hubble's data had been miscalibrated: all the galaxies were twice as far apart as Hubble had thought. This meant that they must have taken twice as long to get to where they are today. As the headlines of 1952 put it, the age of the Universe was doubled overnight, happily making it a

At the time, there was no conflict with the estimated ages of stars, since astrophysicists had only the vaguest idea how old the stars were. But over the next few decades, as successive improvements in telescopes and observing techniques pushed the measured distances to the galaxies out even further, and the age of the Universe up towards 10 Ullion years, the stars were also becoming better understood, and est-

little more than the age of the Earth.



The Hubble Space Telescope improved cosmological observations - here, its camera captures interstellar gas pillars Reuters

imates of their ages (at least of the rate of the Universe all point to the oldest stars in the Milky Way) were looking uncomfortably large.
By the start of the Nineties, when

the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) began to play a part in improving cosmological observations, estimates of the age of the Universe hovered around 10-12 billion years, but estimates of the ages of the oldest stars were about 16 billion years. This was the cause of the headlines, some simply poking fun at astronomers, others suggesting that the whole Big Bang theory of the origin of the Universe might be wrong.

Now that gap has been closed from either side. The really important feature of the cosmological work is that several completely different ways of measuring the expansion

same answer. Hubble's original technique was based on measuring distances to nearby galaxies, by studying stars known as cepheids in those galaxies. Their brightnesses are compared with cepheids in our own Milky Way, and the comparative brightnesses give you the distances to the galaxies. Then, you have to compare properties (such as size and brightness) of nearby galaxies with the properties of more distant galaxies to estimate how far apart they are. This traditional approach has been extended by the HST.

distances to more galaxies than any previous instrument. At the same time, distances were being measured by comparing the

which can measure more cepheid

brightnesses of supernovae in different galaxies. A supernova marks the explosive death of a star, when it briefly shines as brightly as a whole galaxy of ordinary stars. So supernovae can be seen a long way away. All kinds of supernovae have the same brightness, so their distances can be found simply by measuring how faint they look in our telescopes. But this technique still depends on calibrating the brightnesses of

nearby supernovae using cepheids. Two other techniques do away with cepheids altogether. One involves gravitational lensing - the way the gravity of whole clusters of galaxies bends light from a galaxy far away across the Universe to form a distorted image in our telescopes. The geometry of the lensing can,

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under some circumstances, give the distance to the galaxy being lensed. And there is another technique that measures the Hubble constant from the effect that hot gas in clusters of galaxies has on the microwave background radiation, the echo of the Big Bang, passing through it.

Crucially, all four techniques give a similar value for the constant, and this implies that the minimum age of the Universe (the time since the Big Bang) is 13 billion years. It was the Bellman, in The Hunting of the Snark, who said: "What I tell you three times is true." The Universe has told us four times that it is at

least 13 hillion years old. It is true. If astrophysicists were still telling us that the oldest stars are 16 billion

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## UPDATE

A CLOT-BUSTING drug to treat heart patients is to be developed from snake venom in an £84,000 study funded by the British Heart Foundation. A molecule in venom called dendroaspin (or mambin) is known to stop blood from clotting which can prevent strokes - but causes side-effects. The study points the way to drugs based on the anticlotting part of dendroaspin, which does not produce associated

years old, this would still be em-

barrassing. But at the same time

that the new results were coming in,

data from the Hipparcos satellite

was changing our understanding of

old stars. Hipparcos measured dist-

ances to stars with unprecedented

precision. Clear of the blurring ef-

fects of the Earth's atmosphere, it

located stars in the sky to an accur-

acy of one-thousandth of a second of

arc, equivalent to being able to mea-

sure the size of a golf ball at a dis-

tance of 3,000 miles. A key result of

this work was that it shifted the mea-

sured distances of the oldest stars

out slightly. If the stars are further

away from us. they must be shining

more brightly than astrophysicists

used to think, in order to look as

bright as they do in the sky. And if

they are shining more brightly, they

must have used up their nuclear fuel

(converting hydrogen into helium,

like the process which powers a hyd-

rogen bomb) more quickly. So they

must be younger than had been

thought. The best estimates of the

ages of the oldest stars - the oldest

known objects in the Universe - now

range from 10 to 12 billion years,

comfortably less than the "new" age

The Universe has told

us four times that

it is at least

13 billion years old

Recently, supernova studies have

suggested that the rate at which the

Universe is expanding is increasing.

Given the way the tide of opinion now

flows, this has been presented as an-

other crisis for cosmology. It is noth-

ing of the kind. The effect can be

explained in terms of a parameter

called the cosmological constant,

which Albert Einstein himself intro-

duced into the discussion more than

80 years ago. And if the Universe is

expanding a little faster than it used

to, it was expanding more slowly

before, and took even longer to get

to its present state. We have to

increase the age of the Universe by

another 10 per cent or so, to a min-

imum of 14 billion years. The astro-

physicists agree that the 2 billion years that allow for the oldest stars

around today to have formed after

the Big Bang, are ample. If anything

in science is a Deep Truth, this

match between astrophysics and

cosmology is a prime candidate. It

should be shouted from the rooftops.

Dr John Gribbin is a visiting Fellow

in astronomy at the University of

Sussex and author of The Birth of

Time' (Weidenfeld & Nicolson). His

lecture on How We Measured the

Age of the Universe is to be given

the Royal Institution, 21 Albemarle

Street, London W1. on Wednesday

.17 March at 7.30pm

There is even icing on the cake.

of the Universe.

Dr Eve Hyde, a scientist at the University of Birmingham, where the research is to be carried out, said: "We have already found out the overall structure of dendroaspin, but now we hope to focus in on a part of the molecule that makes it so effective at stopping clots. If we can find this part and copy it, it could be the basis for a highly effective new drug."

SCIENTISTS AT the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) are expected next week to announce new evidence for the presence of life on Martian meteorites. Researchers led by David McKay from Nasa's Johnson Space Center in Houston, will inform the Lunar and Planetary Conference that they have found tiny structures on the Nakhla meteorite that could be fossilised microorganisms. The same group said in 1996 that they had found signs of life on another meteorite, known as ALH84001, but this was subsequently disputed by other scientists. Critics argue that the meteorites have suffered too much terrestrial contamination to be of use in the search for Martian life forms.

VIAGRA, THE wonder drug for male impotence, does not have the same effect on women, reports New Scientist. A study of 33 post-menopausal women in the US found that only a quarter of them claimed their sex lives had improved as a result of taking the drug - results which were no better than a placebo. Steven Kaplan. of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, said that only one in five of the women wanted to continue taking Viagra after the trial "Clitoral blood-flow improvement, manifested... by increased sensitivity: may not have translated into improved sexual function," Dr Kaplan said. STEVE CONNOR

## TECHNOQUEST

Q: I saw a rainbow very high in the sky near cirrus clouds, with no curve. It was on a damp evening. What was this? What you saw was no rainbow - although it was very similar Rainbows are caused by sunlight being reflected and split inside raindrops. This other effect is called parhelia, or sundogs. Instead of water. ice crystals (hexagonal in shape) refract light and refocus some of it towards. you, giving a ring of light around the Sun.

It is rare to see the whole ring, but arcsections are common. At the four compass points of this ring you often see brighter patches of "rainbow-like" light, several degrees in extent.

Q: How does a fish know what species if is? It can't look in a mirror to see what it looks like and then find others that look similar. I guess this applies to all animals how can a baby elephant recognise an adult elephant, without seeing itself in a mirror? A deceptively simple question. Fish recognise their own species by, eg: huminous organs, in lantern fish: colour spots,

in John Dory; smell, in chemicals released by an injured minnow. We do not know

whether, or how, they can recognise individuals of their own species. The recognition-response to these signals is usually genetic, ie they do not need to learn it from parents. They don't have to see themselves, only respond to a particular smell or colour that indicates another member



Goldfish – or shark?

of the species. It seems that fish, and presumably other animals, know what patterns and colours to look for by some genetic coding - it's just natural! However, it's clear that some animals don't recognise or feel comfortable with, others of their own species if they're older and bigger. I foster an elephant that was recently introduced to a new family in Kenya. It had no memory of adult elephants, as its mother

was killed when it was young. It took a couple of hours to feel comfortable with the adult elephants.

Q: How did Pascal

measure atmospheric

pressure with a 40-ft

glass tube full of wine? Barometers can be made using any liquid. Imagine a long tube almost filled with water. Turn the tube upside down and put the open end in a bucket of water The weight of the atmosphere on the water in the bucket pushes against the water in the tube and stops it coming out. The lower the atmospheric pressure, the more water will flow out of the tube, causing the level of water in it to drop. Conversely, high pressure will force the level up. Barometers are usually made of mercury because it is so dense— 76cm of mercury in a thin tube can typically be supported by an average atmospheric pressure. Pascal showed that the same atmospheric pressure, which most people were unaware of until then, could support 40ft of wine in a tube.

Visit the Technoquest website at http://www. sciencenet.org.uk

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## My year with Stanley

Sara Maitland had never seen a film script when Stanley Kubrick asked her to write for him. Though their difficult collaboration ended in failure and frustration she would gladly do it again

telephone rang. I answered and a gruff voice said, "This is Stanley Kubrick. Would you like to write a film script for me?" Assuming this was a joking friend, I replied, "And this is Marilyn Monroe and I've been dead 30 years." He laughed. It really was Stanley Kubrick.

This slightly surreal episode was the beginning of one of the most exciting, frustrating, confusing and educational periods of my professional life. For a brief time I was Stanley Kubrick's scriptwriter.

Why you? I am asked with unflattering amazement. Without undue arrogance, I was rather a sound choice. He wanted me to work on the long-promised "Kubrick's Al film," although he always called it "Pinocchio". He was fascinated by Artificial Intelligence. He wanted to effect a cultural change. If robots are made by us and act like us, why are they not our children? He complained about Blade Runner, that if it was that difficult to determine who was a replicant - why did it matter? Why do they have to be hunted down? He believed computers will become truly intelligent, including emotionally, and are potentially a more environmentally adaptable form of human being: they are our future. The film was intended to make us love them.

By the time I came to the project it had become enormous, unwieldy, unfocused. Kubrick needed some through-line of fairy tale, of story beneath plot. He was creating a new myth and needed someone who was at home with myth and how it works. At the same time, the technology and the scale - which spanned at least three millennia - were overwhelming the story. It needed a writer who dealt with the little, the nuances of interrelationship, of the minute movements of human hearts and especially, since maternity was an important theme, of women's hearts. Kubrick had encountered my short stories and recognised that that is what I do. I write about the underbelly of human emotions in the framework of myth and fairy story.

He did not want an experienced scriptwriter. He wanted a storyteller. When I told him I had never seen a film script. he was delighted. He wanted a running text, not a script; filming it was his job. He boasted that there was no sentence in the English language which he could not make into film. We played a game in which I had to come up with unfilmable sentences. "She perfectly repressed her

He wanted sentences to film. Sadly I contact clause in your contract." could not deliver for him. He wanted to make this film, really wanted to; I wanted to write it. So why didn't it work? I am not sure now that it was makeable: he had played with it too long so that it had to be perfect and at that scale nothing is going to be perfect. Perhaps he could turn anything into film, but this presupposed an infinity of time and resources... and even then it may not be possible to invent a myth in that individualistic way.

It didn't work between him and me because I was not the right sort of writer. I have to write out ideas to be confident of them: he had to be persuaded by ideas very quickly; before he wanted time spent on them. I need space and silence and time: reclusive; he protected his privacy. Inside be published in May by Little, Brown

(and obedience). I had the wrong size of ego: too large to hand my creative skills over to him passively, too small to believe I could sometimes know better than him.

But it also did not work because he was impossible to work for. This is part of the Kubrick myth. It was also true. He had more energy than anyone I have ever met. He dedicated himself to the project and he expected everyone around him to do so too. While his energy was directed at our work he would ring up repeatedly at ridiculous hours, wanting total attention, now. He was completely involved and did not understand that anyone might work in a different way. Once, when we were stuck, I managed to say that I and the story needed some space. How long? he asked. A month, I suggested. He looked at me and said, "I couldn't." Then he laughed and, in an unusual moment, told me everyone who had ever written for him had asked for the same thing, but he had come to realise he just could not leave his project with someone else for that long. We finally negotiated 10 days. We parted and I drove home, barely an hour away. By the time I got there there were three messages from him on my answer machine: all of them demanding an immediate response. There was no apology. no mention of our recent agreement.

He boasted there was no sentence in the English language which he could not make into film

He was famously arrogant. I asked him

once how he imagined "active" robots would look in a few thousand years. "However I make them look in this film," he said. I felt envious, not aggrieved, by this. I admired his sense of his own power. Because he was arrogant, he got the films made.

He was also supposed to be paranoid, and sometimes I did wonder. Small, compact, bearded, often wearing a boiler suit, he did not look like someone who abhorred physical contact, but at our first meeting he conspicuously avoided even the customary handshake; I never saw him touch another person. He loathed journalists, especially British journalists. In a conversation I mentioned a friend of mine was a journalist. "Do you know many journalists?" he demanded. "Yes." "If I'd known that," he said calmly, "I'd have had a non-

He was profoundly secretive. There was a silencing clause in my contract - I could not talk about the film. I now suspect that lots of other writers worked on this project: but he would never say who or what or why they had stopped, or even if they had stopped. I would like to meet other people who tried to write this story with him; and discuss what film we all thought we were working towards. The idea of our getting together would have appalled him. Once I left a message about the script with his PA and got a tremendous ticking off:

about work I could talk only to him. But does this constitute paranoia in any clinical sense? He was busy and he was

he wanted engagement and immediacy his protective cordon he was warm and friendly and his large household was relaxed and friendly. He lived, rather unromantically, between Luton and St Albans, in the house originally built for the founder of Maples furniture store: an Edwardian pomposity, set in large grounds. His "office" was the old billiards room, rather charmingly unaltered with the scoreboard still on the wall and replicas of the original heavy velvet curtains. Only the billiard table itself had been removed, replaced at one end of the room by a desk and at the other by an awe-inspiring and, to me, mysterious, bank of film-stuff: TV screens, videos, and electronic wizardry.

On a couple of occasions we went from there through a warren of ex-servant quarters to the enormous kitchen-cum-sitting-and-dining-room. Under the central kitchen-island each of the half-dozen dogs had a recessed bed. It was very like my kitchen would be if I was rich and famous. The whole household, including the staff, seemed to drift through these informal lunchtimes. It was chatty, fun, normal

He was one of the best talkers I have ever met, flamboyant with his ideas, interested in yours, widely read, fiercely intelligent and demanding, and seriously funny on a good day. But in the end he was interested in the film, not in me. He was savagely impatient. He could be rude when thwarted, even in minor matters. Eventually it became clear that I wasn't giving him what he wanted. I began to feel bullied instead of excited, less and less able to wheel as he wanted, less and less eager to do so. I started to grumble to my friends, while feeling a failure.

One day he handed me a book called Viennese Novelettes by Schnitzler. I must read "Rhapsody", it was a wonderful story, it would make a wonderful film. So I read it and it didn't grab me. That was the end. It had grabbed him. It now know it had grabbed him 20 years ago, but he spoke as though he had only read it the night before.) It is the basis of Eyes Wide Shut. "Pinoc-chio" was on hold. The cheque for completion of my contract arrived and I never heard from him again.

That sort of thing makes people angry. This week someone said that Kubrick was a great director but a "failed human being". I recognise the feeling, but know for me that is a defensive reflex: it means he failed to love me or, rather, my work. Kubrick made some great films, marked as his, in an almost old-fashioned way. He had a long-lasting marriage and his numerous dogs liked him. He adored his grandchildren; they were perhaps the only personal topic he ever mentioned. I wouldn't mind being that sort of failure.

I thought I was angry, until I heard he had died. Then I realised that I hadn't really quite given up hope that when he had finished this little film, he would come back to the big one; he would ring up again one day and let me work with him - and even though it would be horrible and frustrating again, I would say yes.
I am proud that I worked for him. He

made me interested in film writing - I know I want to do so again. And I am sad; I think It, despite having suffered a we have lost someone magnificent.

Sara Maitland's novel, Brittle Joys', will



## LOST WORLDS: THE FILMS KUBRICK NEVER MADE

2001:

turned

down an .

offer to

Kubrick was obsessed with the French emperor and

suitably epic film. The director constantly compared his method of film-making to the way the French emperor fought his battles in their strategy, planning and execution. Jack Nicholson was interested in playing the title role. Shooting was at one point scheduled for winter 1969, with MGM agreeing to back

number of expensive flops. However, it was dogged by delays and by 1974 was

In 1991, Kubrick bought the rights to a book, Wartime Lies, about a young Jewish boy who is forced to flee Poland when the Germans invade. He joins up with an aunt, and together they become involved in the black market. Kubrick sent out scouts to hunt down locations in Denmark for "Aryan Papers", as he called it, but his interest in the project gradually

evaporated. Some say he abandoned it because of its similarities to Schindler's List, although that problem had never deterred him before: Vietnam epics Platoon and Hamburger Hill were both released before Full Metal Jacket.

direct the film of Arthur C Clarke's 2010: Odyssey Two in 1984, and the job instead went to Peter Hyams. There have been suggestions for years. though, that Kubrick had something special lined up for his fans when the year 2001 came around. One persistent rumour had him deep into a project which involved him shooting segments of the script for two months every five years, with the story following an actor as he aged in real life.

"A!" (Artificial Intelligence) was a fable set in the far future about an android searching for a way to become human (hence Kubrick's "Pinocchio" references). It was to be set in a flooded Manhatran, where the tops of the skyscrapers protruded from the waves. Kubrick had felt for a long time that special effects technology wasn't up to the job. In 1993, though, Jurassic Park convinced him the time had come. At one stage, Brian Aldiss, a writer Kubrick hired to work on the script, was sacked after breaching his contract by leaving the country without Kubrick's permission.

MAXTON WALKER

## Woman on the verge of a telephone call

THIS CRITIC would queue to see Amanda Harris perform the shipping forecast. Indeed, there were moments during Take the Fire when I began to think it would have been preferable. The evening consists of four monologues by Jean black two-piece Ms Harris begins Cocteau, in whose works the charlatan and the genius tantalisingly weave and dark Unfortunately, when he composed these, the genius seems to have been en vocances.

On a bare stage and in a trim

THEATRE TAKE THE FIRE LYRIC STUDIO HAMMERSMITH

and ends the proceedings lying full length by a silent telephone - the archetypal image of womanhood kept on humiliating hold by a two-timing bastard. Well, I say womanhood, but gay male emotion appears to have

projected itself so massively on to strategy for coping with the unseen a woman on the game at the gam of her lover's silence. Jabbering have the effect of virtually reducing the defiant glad rags of drag.

Or rather it would, if it weren't for gence behind the pained sensual herself as well as others. flounce and desperation. Her performance is subtly and winningly camp, only because camp is one syncopated rhyming couplets about tress hurls herself against the rock

these monologuing dames as to or silent men in the plays; the saving charm is that you don't feel the them to a victim-complex got up in actress is being camp as a way of coping with that other oppressive male, Jean Cocteau. No one can the warmly attractive talents of Ms flash a smile of more radiant raunch Harris who is all the more moving than Ms Barris or convince you that for heightening the droll intellishe is amusing some private part of

> My favourite piece was "The Dame of Monte Carlo", a ballad in

ing tables, a reckless gambler who is eventually exposed and thrust out. artfully shaded production strike me as poorer versions of other works -Le Bel Indifferent is inferior to both Cocteau's own La Voix Humain and to any number of plays in its understanding of the power relations between a couple where one does all the talking. Here, the actress-mis-

The other items in Paul Garrington's tragic end of her tether via a series belle to a Fie, Madam beauty-spotted heroine.

All very accomplished, but as I remarked to a female colleague on the way out, it will be nice to see Amanda Harris playing a woman again.
PAUL TAYLOR Amanda Harris Gergint Lewis



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## The magic is missing.

AFTER MONTHS of hosting big-league companies, Sadier's Wells is paying its dues to the local community with Green Candle Dance Company's new On the Road to Baghdad. This spectacle adapts a novel by the Turkish-American writer Guneli Gun, which in turn recycles Middle-Eastern folklore, history, Sulism and The Thousand and One Nights. The put-upon picaresque heroine is Huru, who staggers through a tapestry of extraordinary events, monstrous characters and demons who appear and disappear. It is magic realism given a predictable, 20th-

century, feminist slant. The choreographer and dancer Fergus Early started Green Candle as a community project 12 years ago. So how do

DANCE GREEN CANDLE DANCE COMPANY SADLER'S WELLS LONDON

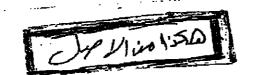
ance? With an indulgent smile, if the production is devised and presented solely by amateurs who dance, act, sing and play music. Our heroine travels not only between Istanbul and Baghdad, but also 800 years backwards - and, at three hours, it certainly felt like it.

Emma Cater's Huru is on a strong enough focus. Early, playing the small role of Huru's but Jason Lahav's greenskinned demon needs to loosen more rigorously pursued. you judge community perform- up his verbal stiffness.

The evening lights up with the Turkish actor Umut Ugur as a roguish alchemist, whose brief, but weighty, presence and voice suddenly make you sit up. He also took part in an exquisite, fantastical aerial ballet, with figures suspended in a night sky, tipping over and tangling with each other. But, in general, the work's dance rarely rises above movement sequences and is shakily

performed. The cast of (almost) thousands was made possible by the volunteers, whose ages span stage all the time and has a from five to 75. Their obvious sweet singing voice, but is not pleasure makes this Arts Council-funded project worthwhile, but given its extensive father, is relatively harmless; scale and preparation, it is a shame that basic skills were not

NADINE MEISNER





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## MUSIC



## The rhythm kings

Drum'n'bass is at the heart of popular music and for 20 years Sly Dunbar and Robbie Shakespeare have been acknowledged the best. But who are their own favourites? By Charles Shaar Murray

engine which drives rock, pop. soul, funk, jazz, reggae, and anything else you care to name. And for more than two decades, Jamaica's hardest have been drummer Lowell "Sly" Dunbar and bassist Robbie Shakespeare, acclaimed as masters of groove and propulsion. The breakthrough was in 1977 with The Mighty Diamonds' "Right Time", a revolutionary record, with Sly's radical drumming matching the singers'

insurrectionary lyrics blow-for-blow. Since then, they've manifested in a variety of guises: as members of Black Uhuru; as producers (they were behind Chaka Demus & Pliers' string of pop-reggae hits a few years back); as hired guns for artists from Grace Jones to Ian Dury; and as artists in their own right with a series of dubbed-out rhythm orgies culminating in their current Strip to the Bone, a deose, hallucinatory team-up with readix terrorist Howie B. As Black Uhuru lead singer Michael Rose used to chant, "Robbie Shakespeare hit you when you're near, Sly Dunbar hit you from afar".

Sly Dunbar defines "groove" as "a wicked, wicked drumbeat. If they can dance off of that, you add a bass to concrete it, to shape it into a song. If that a gwan, everything all right. A little guitar, a little keyboard ting pon it, like making a cake: different tastes to make it perfect". So it seemed a reasonable notion to ask the Rhythm Killers who they regard as

tions go something like this. Motown rhythm section James Jamerson (bass), Benny Ben-

the champs in their field. Their nomina-

rum'n'hass: it's the groove was right. Not really ever a bad (bass), Bernard Pretty Purdie (drums) wicked song, you know it's a wicked song, section was so unorthodox - in a class by wicked, wicked.

Siy: If you check all the Motown songs, they always have a memorable bass-line. If you play 10 Motown songs, you remember the bass-lines. Any musical person could sing you the line: you remember the bass-line more than the lyric of the song.
Picks: Jr Walker: "Shotgun"; Tempta-

tions: "My Girl": Miracles: "Get Ready"

Stax rhythm section Donald Duck' Dunn, replacing Lewis Steinberg, (bass), Al Jackson Jr (drums) Sly: Al Jackson was the greatest recording drummer. When they were going to record (Bill Withers') "Ain't No Sunshine", which Booker T (below) produced, they'd just got a drum kit that day at the studio, and he took it out of the box and played it as is. All he did was tighten the snare. Another time he was playing live and the snare drum burst, so he just pulled over a tom-tom and started beating on that. Nobody even knew the

drummer, if the snare goes, it's like everything has gone. Robbie: Donald "Duck" Dunn was wicked, but I never know til lately that he was the one who played for Stax. I don't get to do my read-

snare drum had burst. For a

Picks: Booker T & the MGs: "Green Onions", "Time Is Tight"; Wilson Pickett: In The Midnight

Atlantic rhythm sections Robbie: Everything wha' dem do, the Primarily Chuck Rainey

foundation of popular song come out, everything was wicked, Sly: Bernard Purclie was wicked; he So much groove when they played! sions with (producers) Jerry Wexler and Arif Mardin.

Robbie: Then there was the Muscle Shoals rhythm section. I don't know their names. I haven't done my research and I feel like a dummy.

Picks: Aretha Franklin: "Rock Steady": Herbie Mann: Memphis Underground

Various Channel One and Studio One rhythm sections

Including Boris Gardner (bass), Leroy 'Horsemouth' Wallace (bass)

Sly: Credits don't really exist in Jamaica. You come to England and everybody know from word of mouth who played what in Jamaica! Credits started when (producer/bandleader) Bunny Lee put the name of the musicians on the record and it start from there. Somebody come from England and know everyting bout every music, who play what on what. We say, "Wha"? Me na know!" Before that

> Lee All-Stars" or "the Joe Gibbs All-Stars". Who is "All-Pick: Heptones: "Why Did You Leave Me To Cry"

it was "backed by the Bunny

Bob Marley & the Wailers Aston Tamily Man' Barrett (bass), Carl-& ton 'Carlie' Barrett (drums) Sly: Carlie had a style like nobody

else. He did some things when he played a roll, it was just inside. When they play a

used to do all the (New York) Atlantic ses- Picks: "Duppy Conqueror", "Crazy Bald- Pick: "Look-A-Py-Py"

Paul McCartney (bass), Ringo Starr

Sly: Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, they proved themselves from time. They really have a track record. Pick: "A Hard Day's Night"

The Rolling Stones Bill Wyman (bass), Charlie Watis Pick: "Sex Machine" (drums) Sly: Charlie Watts? Wickedest drum-Pick: "Satisfaction"

The Who John Entwistle (bass), Keith Moon

Sly: Keith Moon was great, especially when performing live, yunno. When he died, they never was The Who again. Robbie: I never know the bass player's name, but I love his style. Pick: "See Me, Feel Me" (from Tommy, as performed live at Woodstock)

Siy & The Family Stone Larry Graham (bass), Greg Errico Sly: Wicked, man, wicked, man. Awesome. Pick: "Sing A Simple Song"

George Porter (bass), Joseph 'Zigaboo' Modeliste (drums) Sly: The wickedest rhythm section. Robbie: When I was young I used to lis-

Sly: And I'd think, "How can we copy Sly and Robbie's Strip to the Bone' is out them?" And nobody could. That rhythm on Palm Pictures

**Various** James Brown rhythm sections, including Bootsy Collins (bass), Clude Stubblefield (drums)

Sly: We asked Bootsy to play some funk for us, to play "Sex Machine", and he was playing the guitar part too! Robbie: Bootsy played guitar for us on "Boops" and the albums Rhythm Killers and Language Barrier.

**Weather Report** Jaco Pastorius (bass), Peter Erskine

Sly: That's my jazz rhythm section! Robbie: He did things nobody had ever done on the bass. We were on a tour of Japan and he was on it. You think Jaco would have a fancy bass? One old Fender bass. He was the one who took out the frets, said he couldn't afford a fretless bass. Sly: Them harmonics things he played. I never heard nobody play. A full song, harmonic style.

And, of course... Robbie Shakespeare (bass), Sly Dunbar (drums) Sly: The wickedest Sly & Robbie groove for all time is (Grace Jones's) "Pull Up

Pick: "Birdland"

Robbie: Wicked

To The Bumper" and "Boops".
Robbie: A Black Uhuru song, "Fit You Haffe Fit". Sly: What drummer could play that? Totally different between the snare and

## LYRIC SHEETS

MARTIN NEWELL

After the failure of Blur's single to oust Britney Spears (below) from the top of the charts. the NME has said there's a case for rock's future "left-field aspirants" to follow the example of 70s rock dinosaurs and refuse to release sinules

## Back to the **Great Divide**



If there's a case for snobbery It probably starts here: A choice between an alcopop Or decent pint of beer A trawl around our "hit parade" Its airheads and its chancers Its ditzy little keyboard riffs And drama-schooltrained dancers Whose cover shots and image fees For vapid promo vids Might buy a year of breakfasts For a town of starving kids

So could the only antidote Be "music-with-a-beard?" The difficult and lengthy The arty and the weird Where every track's a sort of threat Which keeps on switching key Or flaunts a nasty time-change Where choruses should be With minus no-potential As an advertising jingle And even less to offer As a radio-friendly single

Back to double gatefold sleeves And self-important solos? But back to men who musically, Would give you their last Rolos Scruffy folk in wiry specs The fashion police would hate Unsuitable for TFI The Chart Show or Blind Date Who'd drag the music from the mall And into pastures fresh And leave the singles market To the muppets, as a creche

## ROBERT HANKS



**NASA's space** station was □ clearly the origin of the phrase 'astronomically expensive'

PAGE 18

## RIFFS

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First record Colin Blundstone: Say You Don't Mind

I find this record spooky. It is deeply nostalgic for me, and evocative of a certain time. You will understand why the nostalgia makes the record quite frightening, when I tell you that I was given it when entering puberty. In fact, it's a very cheesy

record, a one-hit-wonder of a love ballad, but a ballad that almost manages to achieve a dizzy melancholy. So it's quite sophisticated, really. But again, I think the feeling of melancholy was mostly to do with my age, and how emotions tend to run away with themselves during puberty. I remember that I would be nearly in tears, and

It is always the melodies that really affect me, rather than the lyrics. And seeing as I had no concept of relationships at the time, I am sure I wasn't listening to

Its influence is in there somewhere, like an albatross around my neck. This song is responsible for all my cheesy, melancholic

Supercollider: Supercollider This is a great example of trying something different. It's really dark, with a lot of deep bass, and what I like to call disintegrated funk. This is less high energy than Seventies funk, and more a remvention of the traditional soulful funk. It's very Nineties funk. It is also quite industrial

and dirty. The ideal millennium party tune! The sound is dismembered broken down into parts and it jerks through many different genres throughout the record: a bit of house, some slower tempo music, and hip-hop. But, most important, it uses other music styles without being retrospective.

As a musician I find this experimentation is very appealing, and in a way it is what makes me play it, to experience new influences. It's a really modern look at how to be funky.

INTERVIEW BY JENNIPER ROCER



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## THIS WEEK'S ALBUM RELEASES

REVIEWED BY ANDY GILL



**BETH ORTON** Central Reservation Heavenly

BETH ORTON'S career so far has followed a decidedly idiosyncratic path, tacking nimbly between the apparently conflicting helds of folk and house music. She initially made her name collaborating with danceloor dynamos such as William Orbit, Andrew Weatherall and The Chemical Brothers, but her second album reveals rather more, you suspect, of her own personal taste. The only vaguely "dancey" sounds on Central Reservation occur when Everything but the Girl's Ben Watt, acknowledged master of the techno/torchsong crossover, applies a faint synthesiser backdrop and the most discreet of trip-hop preakbeats to "Stars all Seem to Weep" and one of two versions of the title-track - and even then, so subtle is his work that he change is barely perceptible.

Elsewhere, the accumulated experience of two years' work with her live band has given Orton the confidence to develop the rootsier elements of her Trailer Park début. With its subtle instrumental tinting and relaxed double-bass underpinnings. Central Reservation more closely follows the folk-jazz contours of Tim Buckley, John Martyn or Nick Drake - one track features Buckley's old vibes player, Dave Friedman, while the husky melisma of Orton's vocals inescapably brings to mind Drake's languid charm.

The mood throughout is calm and ruminative, particularly for tracks such as "Sweetest Decline", where gently sweep ing strings and the cocktail tinkle of Dr John's piano support Orton as she muses in Thomas Gray vein: "Another day slips away, and my heart sinks with the sun." The other guests are equally well chosen: the distinctive slide guitar of Ben Harper uncoils warily through a couple of tracks, and the cult soul-jazz singer Terry Callier helps out on "Pass in Time", Orton's

elegy for her late mother. "There's no right or wrong, this isn't a test, and I won't lose my experience," Orton notes on "Couldn't Cause me Harm" - as level-headed an observation as any in contemporary pop music.



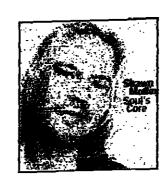
13 Food

BLUR'S SIXTH album is a grower On first hearing, it sounds rough and unfocused, the least solid of their releases; but with each subsequent encounter, its character becomes more clearly defined. Continuing their drift away from Britpop, it's undoubtedly their most courageous work, returning them to the psychedelic indie-rock of their Leisure début. With Damon Albarn's separation from Justine Frischmann hanging over proceedings, it's rather morose, though there's no shortage of compensatory fun in the wealth of quirky detail layered in by William Orbit. He's given them the freedom to pursue a myriad different paths. taking their lead from such as the Plastic One Band ("Tender"), David Bowie ("Bugman"), The Fall ("Swamp Song") and krautrock ("Trailer Park"). The short and sharp "B.L.U.R.E.M.L." perhaps best shows the album's playfulne punctuating a terse punk thrash with cartoon duck quacks, before tacking on a quiet piano postlude. 13 may lack the instant pop-appeal of Parklife, but there's more authentic life to this music than anything they've done before.



Who Else!

THIS IS Jeff Beck's first proper album (i.e. not a soundtrack) since 1989's Guitar Shop axe-hero masterclass, which must make him one of the country's most criminally under-utilised natural resources. The reason is probably his inability, or disinclination, to come up with new material. The kind of guitar wizardry that Beck specialises in mostly consists of small clusters of dazzling technical effects rather than melody lines, so it's fortunate that keyboardist Tony Hymas has come up with enough tunes to fill out another record, leaving the guitarist free to concentrate on expressing himself as spectacularly as possible. Accordingly, there are plenty of whizz-bang guitar stunts such as those on the opener "What Mama Said", the musical equivalent of a match carelessly tossed into a box of fireworks, shooting colourful guitar phrases in all directions. Balancing these showy pyrotechnics are subtler, moodier pieces such as "Angel (Footsteps)" and the live cut "Brush With The Blues", where Beck's taste and command of his instrument is simply nonpareil. Dazzling stuff.



SHAWN MULLINS Soul's Core

SHAWN MULLINS' infectious hit "Lullaby" contains one of the year's better couplets, when he says of Los Angeles, "Seems like everyone here's got a plan/It's kind of like Nashville with a tan". The song, an LA story of childhood dreams damned by the disillusions of adulthood, is typical of Mullins' work: he's a wandering troubadour in the classic Sixties mould, offering neatly-turned vignettes of ordinary lives and fleeting encounters in songs such as "September In Seattle" and "Gulf Of Mexico". His influences are clear: Dylan, Hank Williams and Kris Kristofferson for the most part, while Steve Earle's fingerprints are all over "Ballad Of Billy Jo McKay", a thumboail sketch of smalltown ennui, Mullins' characters all suffer from the American disease of restlessness, whether it's the hobo in "Twin Rocks, Oregon" or the wife in "Tannin' Bed Song" who tires of life in a trailer park. But there's no reproach, just a fellow-feeling for those whose American Dream has soured; as he admits in "Anchored In You", "...sometimes we dreamers just get in the way".



PETER THOMAS SOUND ORCHESTRA Warp Back To Earth 66/99

SEPTUAGENARIAN SOUNDTRACK composer Peter Thomas is best known for his late-Sixties work on the cult German scifi series Space Patrol Orion, 29 fragments of which are collected together on the second of these two CDs. Titles such as "Communication In Hyperspace" and "Galaxy Fall Out" signal Thomas's territory, a universe composed of equal parts lounge muzak, jazz-rock and pio neering synthesiser soundscapes which, time being circular, sounds utterly contemporary today. The other disc features not so much remixes as re-applications of Thomas's sounds by disciples such as pop groups Saint Etienne and Stereolab - both of whom produce their most beguiling work in some time - and avant-rockers such as Stock, Hausen & Walkman. The results are an intriguing blend of the effete and the experimental. There's a regimentation to some tracks, however, that rather betrays the spirit of the original work only the sonic bricolage of S,H&W's "Space Rocks" and the dark matter of Tipsy's "Evil Guitar" come close to emulating the aleatory atmosphere of Thomas's own music.

## My, what a big lighting rig you've got



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BRAN SEIZER

at MVC

Stan Setzer, the former singer and driving force behind carty 80's rockabilly screations The Stray Cats.

is now at the sanguard of the now swarg movement in America with his tautastic

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music's most impassioned

that they make repetitive electronic good and has a groove (not as easy as it sounds). They are also likeable lovable, even. They project this likefront of a matrix of five giant screens alternately showing abstract designs and closed-circuit TV images

Yet they do seem genuinely nice, your average guys-next-door, with £30,000 worth of electronics but thoughtful enough to use head-comprehensible, repetitive yet com-phones after 11pm without being pelling, that establish the rapport to the audience.

THE THING about Underworld is asked. Your mother would like them. What they do on stage is somedance music that basically feels thing like a recording studio mixing session turned into a performance. They all wear cordless headphones. Darren Emerson and Rick Smith ability in a way that is larger than operate faders and mute switches on life on the Astoria's wide stage, in a couple of mixers and Karl Hyde moves restlessly around the stage, sometimes twiddling what sounds like the filters of an analogue synthesiser, occasionally picking up a tambourine and, on one number

strapping on a type-decorated guitar. It's Hyde's vocals, largely in-

Brawing on a wide range

costributions from Terry

Salaer, Imogen Hong, Teipacie

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with the audience. He bends and crouches, side-on, radio mic in hand, with elegant/awkward gestures and contortions rippling around his skinny frame. When he isn't singing, which is most of the time. Hyde remains in the spotlight, sidling between the equipment manned by Smith and Emerson, making gestures of support to his colleagues or

Underworld show isn't really about the physical performance of songs. The show is a continuous two-hour audio-visual experience, based around repetition and electronic sound and four-square beats over which the five screens flash type and abstract images that sometimes complement and at other times

contest the sound churning out. The gargantuan rock'n'roll lighting rig, looking many times more expensive and sophisticated than the sound gear, has strobes, spotlights, rotating searchlights and blinding

His stamina is enviable, but the building to the point where the (pre-non-real-time process – studio work dominantly male) ticket-holders are brilliantly floodlit in time to the ceeds as entertainment is mainly opening chords of "Born Slippy".

People dance or at least jiggle to of-time English dancing that stretches back generations. Where the sampled kick drums go "duh, for tasty sounds. duh, duh, duh", the dancers seem to brnyah". Underworld don't mind. They're nice guys, after all, and when you make repetitive electronic dance music, this is what happens.

On stage they are turning what flashguns trained on the audience, was once a boring, unglamorous,

- into a performance. That it sucdown to Hyde. You can't keep your eyes off his mercurial, campy mantheir grooves, in a tradition of outdown to Smith's inventive production, and the trio's collective instinct

not

elves

POLECTOR RECORDS

BOCK H BOLL

MEMORASILIA

David Cutting,

Underworld's repetitive electhear only "brnyah, brnyah, brnyah, ronic dance music dresses and undresses the skeletal structure of hard, explicit, four-four beats in a way that leaves their dope-smoking lager-swilling - but basically quite

nice - audience wanting more. JOHN L WALTERS

## Cerys the menace LIVE

WITH A bottle of wine in her hand and a withering sneer on her face. Cervs Matthews had the crowd bowing in reverence and throwing flowers at her feet. on the first leg of their tour. As they screamed variations on her name - Crease, Cerise, Cress - she barked: "How can you listen with all that shouting?" They responded by yelling louder, willing her to tell

them off again. Matthews is the primary force behind Catatonia and comes equipped with a hefty stage presence. She has cited Judy Garland as her musical hero and sells herself as the laddish hippie chick with an unlimited repertoire of damning soundbites. She also trades on her Celtic vowel sounds and crackling vocals, though Wednesday's show proved that she can just as easily switch on an angelic voice when required for

wistful numbers. During the hit single 'Mulder and Scully", Matthews asked the crowd to help her

CATATONIA ASSEMBLY ROOMS DERBY

along, claiming that she had "problems with the high notes", but we were not to be deceived. Despite her throaty, 40-a-day vocals, Matthews rose beatifically above each note before demolishing them with larynxlacerating force.

Memories of Matthews' remarkable voice will not quite obliterate the fundamental weaknesses in Catatonia's new songs. Previous material leaned heavily on zeitgeisty references which, combined with their generic indie pop, provided them with only fleeting appeal.

New songs revealed more similar sing-a-long melodies and a profusion of cultural clichés, from karaoke to feng shui. A new song, "Storm The Palace", echoed the insurrectionist sentiments of "I Am



Matthews: Crass student sloganeering Kiran Ridley

The Mob", while the "make hay, not war" maxim in "Dead From the Waist Down' smacked of crass student

sloganeering. Fortunately, Matthews' magional crassness of Catatonia's songs. But with such a combination the band will - to borrow the title of their new album find themselves "Equally

Cursed and Biessed". **FIONA STURGES** 

Catatonia play the Octagon, Sheffield tonight, and Barrowlands, Glasgow on Sunnetism outweighs the occas- day 14 March; the tour continues to 24 March.

> A version of this review appeared in later editions of uesterday's paper

## Pre-teenage kicks

FIRST THERE was the boy band, then there was the girl band. But now the world of disposable pop has taken heed of political correctness and come up with the consummate teen act: the boy/girl band.

After a decade away from the fray, Eighties pop-Svengali Pete Waterman has finally joined the dash to satisfy legions of pre-teens. Steps are the fruit of his endeavour

Monday night's show opened with a video screen conveying instructions to the expectant tots. As the word "Scream" appeared, a noise erupted that was comparable to a swarm of mosquitoes homing in on a piece of flesh. Parents looked aghast as their little treasures were overtaken by hormones, screaming themselves silly before their idols

had even graced the stage. Steps arrived looking so fresh-faced and uncontami- rhythms with saccharine

LIVE STEPS FAIRFIELD HALLS CROYDON

nated they could have been ejected from Asda for being genetically modified

But for all their outward equality, there appeared to be an imbalance in their roles. The three girls got to do nearly all the singing and when the handsome Lee was finally perform a sleazy dance routine. And you couldn't help feeling sorry for "H" the goofy-looking boy with the floppy fringe. His niggest entrance was when he was wheeled on dressed as a lion for a cover of The Lion King

theme time. Musically, Steps are reconstituted Abba. Their formula involves plinky-plonky dance

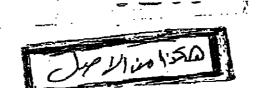
loses girl; boys admits that he has behaved atrociously; boy wins back girl. In case we didn't get it, a pair of dancers acted out a scene of lovers' reconciliation throughout "This Heart Will Love Again". The girls at the front struggled to fight back the tears.

But Steps' showbiz background has served them well. Their stage-school voices were flawless, if a little dull, while brought on alone, it was only to their polished good humour

melodies on a variety of themes: boy meets girl; boy kindly Blue Peter presenter And when it comes to chore ography. Steps must be the first teen act since Take That not to be outshone by their own dancers. You can imagine that when their musical careers dwindle, an aerobics video

won't be far behind If Pete Waterman hasn't already drawn up a blueprint for their "Step-By-Step" video, I'll forfeit my Steps pop-up





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## Child's play

Stuart David plays bass for Brit winners Belle & Sebastian. But listen to what he can do with fridge magnets. By James McNair

n a Greek taverna opposite Glasgow's Queens Park, Stuart David, his wife Karn and his brother Ronnie are quietly sipping at their Cokes with scant regard for the rule that says pop bands should develop an aura. Collectively, this rather sky trio form the spoken-word electronica outfit Looper - a looper, in case you wondered, is someone who's a few Smarties short of a full tube.

To complicate matters, Shuart David also plays bass with Belle & Sebastian, the surprise winners of this year's Brit Award for Best Newcomer. The better known of his two bands was recently disparaged by the bubble gum pop producer Pete Waterman and the rebarbative Jonathan King, and David's phone has been kept busy by vengeful, quote-seeking Scottish tabloids ever since. He's somewhat unde whelmed by their attention: "Belle & Sebastian haven't capitalised on the situation, so hopefully it'll calm down again,"

Like Belle & Sebastian, Looper are signed to the Glasgow-based label Jeepster (total staff: three). It's easy to romanticise about such a cottage industry set-up, but Jeepster's roster has become in at Versus, left Christia synonymous with originality and a certain callow charm. "They don't even ask to hear 19W 1560 of Doubledly's by your records before they go to the master-tic are matter as constant," explains David, apropos the

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label's refreshingly hands-off approach. Jeepster re-releases Belle & Sebastian's

hard-to-come-by debut Tigermilk in May. Looper's album Up a Tree was released this week, and The Green Fields of Foreverland - a pop/folk solo album by Belle & Sebastian's cellist Isobel Campbell - is scheduled for April. These are magical records; flawed, but beguiling; con-

Stuart David (left) with Belle &

temporary, yet tinged with a kind of aural sepia that renders them classic. Stuart David maintains that the ebullient sparkle between the notes is partly down to a lack of record company interference, and the fact that these albums were self-produced.

Although he's always found it easy to write prose, David says that he finds conventional songwriting a bit more prob-

lematic. Up a Tree surmounts this difficulty by blending engrossing spoken-word narratives with intriguing soundscapes. In "Dave the Moonman," for example, the Apollo landings are a metaphor for a sense of possibility in the eponymous hero's own life. As Dave discovers more and more information on the Internet, however, he comes to doubt whether men ever landed on the moon, and we share in his disillusionment. Elsewhere, "Columbo's Car" begins with a sampled double-bass and a chance sighting of the detective's ve-hicle, then builds into a wildly imaginative conceit in which David and Columbo take

turns playing Tetris on a Gameboy.

"A lot of the album is about trying to re capture the playfulness of childhood," says Stuart, "and the sounds on the album and the way it was recorded reflect that,"

This scissors and string approach is also evidenced in the album's use of unconventional instrumentation. Looper will attempt to play fridge magnets, or use the zipper on a jacket to simulate the sound of rap scratching. One of Up a Tree's most instantly evocative sound, though, is the tap-tapping of the antique typewriter that introduces "Impossible Things # 2".

"Impossible Things...," it transpires, is both a love story and a band biography. Its wistful, but never sugary, narrative docu-ments a slow courtship by post; the very



... and with his wife Karn in Looper, who blend spoken-word narratives with soundscapes

one that led to both the formation of Looper, and Stuart's and Karn's marriage.

Though Karn has played typewriter and percussion on recent Looper acoustic sessions, and Ronnie is credited as the guitarist on "Festival 95", on the face of it Stuart's band mates seem somewhat superfluous to a project that is patently his baby. Their centrality to the endeavour becomes clear when you consider that Looper are not just a band, but a multi-media experience. Karn tells me that she studied sculpture at Dundee University, and a

pictured on the Looper CD sleeve. She's also working on some animated films that will form part of Looper's live show.

Ronnie, meanwhile, is an excellent stills photographer, and snapped most of the sleeve's portraits and skewed studies. Live, he supplements his guitar-playing duties with spells projecting images to accompany Karn's Super-8 loops.

Naturally, the band's website functions | Looper's debut album 'Up a Tree' is out

number of her Plasticine miniatures are to a photographic exhibition of Rounce size which he imagines his dad as "a spy tod an engineer", some of Karn's animations and the first two chapters of Stuart's forthcoming novel. "All kinds of artists have visited the site, and if their work is interesting, we're happy to let them use our web-pages to exhibit," says Karn, Now you know where to click.

as a virtual art gallery as well as a listen- now on Jeopster. You can trust their webing-post for Looper songs. It includes a link site at http://www.trechouse.clara.net

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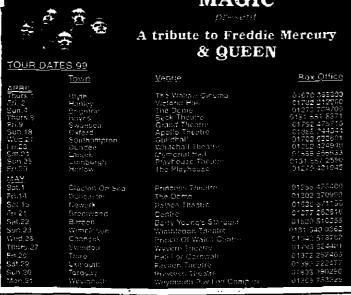
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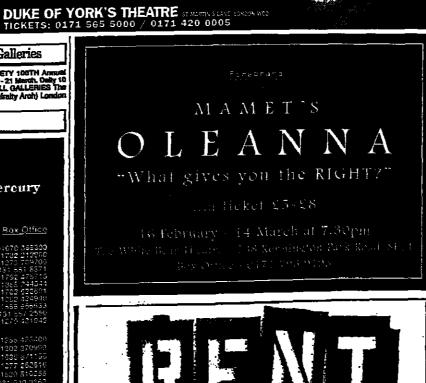
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GINERAL

## Back to Jewish roots

A unique archive of folk music has been given new life, as have historic piano recordings

SIGHT READINGS



MICHAEL CHURCH

n 1911 a group of folklorists set out from St Petersburg to comb the Russian shtetis for Jewish songs and chants. Inspired by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov and led by SM Ansky - author of The Dybbuk - they wanted to record this oral tradition before it evaporated for good. The resulting collection of cylinders was so impressive that the incontang Bolsheviks decreed that the work should continue in Kiev, and put then own man in charge. Moses Beresovsky was a good Stalinist and an excellent folklorist, and until his deportation to Siberia in 1949 be recorded and meticulously transcribed several thousand more songs and texts. However, when he was released in 1955 the cylinders were found to have disappeared, and people came to assume that this unique archive had been destroyed. Now the ebullient Israel Adler, pro-

tessor of musicology at the Hebrew Chiversity of Jerusalem, takes un the tale. Four years ago the director of the National Library in Kiev came to see us about photocopying manuscripts and, seeing our cylinder colection, he mentioned that he too had some cylinders, which the American Library of Congress had looked at without much interest. Could this be the Beregovsky collection? I jumped on the first available plane to Kiev, and discovered that it was."

Last week, in an oddly touching ceremony at London's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Adler and his patron Yehudi Menuhin took delivery of an inaugural CD from the Ukrainian ambassador, amid protestations of eternal friendship between Ukrainians and Jews.

Even leaving aside the awkward .natter of past pogroms, the course of this love-affair has been bumpy, with idlev raising endless obstacles to the digitalisation of the recordings ierusalem wants. While Adler's aim is to make the archive available to traces its transmogrifications with scholars all over the world, Kiev's aim the Ashkenazic Jews to America, the is to make a profit. As a Berlin-born Sephardics round the Mediterranean, 381-Jude. Adler takes this sort of and Oriental Jews through Ethiopia, idversity for granted. "Whenever Yemen, and eastwards to China. things seem discouraging, I listen



Music from the old country: pieces preserved on the Kiev recordings would not be out of place in 'Fiddler on the Roof' Kobal Collection

again to these marvellous recordings. Then I am re-inspired."

To illustrate the point, he plays some examples: a Bartokian country song with driving rhythms; a dance sounding as if it is straight out of Fiddler on the Roof, an austerely beautiful liturgical chant. When this latter was recently broadcast on Haifa radio. he adds, a middle-aged Israeli rang in to say that he recognised the voice of the cantor. It was his own grandfather.

Jewish music is at present on a roll. but what exactly is it? Alex Knapp, the Joe Loss lecturer at City University, who next month moves to SOAS, offers a neat definition. "Cantillation. Music that traces its origins to the temple chant of 2,000 years ago." But then things get complicated, because the music has absorbed influences from every land where it has alighted. He

China? "Well, they're not one of the

57 officially recognised minorities, but there are still 600 Jews living in Kaifeng, and they still retain renmants of the orthodox tradition." Adler has several times lectured on Jewish music at Peking Conservatoire. "The Chinese find Jewish music very moving - they say it comes straight from the heart."

Adler is hot on Jewish music's influence on "daughter religions", as exemplified in Gregorian chant and the music of Islam, but he excludes from his researches most Western music composed by Jews, except when it reflects a conscious return to its roots. Examples? "Ernest Bloch, Arnold Schoenberg, Darius Milhaud - and Leonard Bernstein".

MEANWHILE SOMETHING extraord nary is happening with that other piece of dinosaur technology, the piano roll. While Nimbus perseveres with its which rolls cut by Twenties virtuosi are translated into sound by a robot of the 20th Century series. This

ultimate computerised answer. The problem with the robot is one of tonal balance; we get the architecture of the performances, but little sense of their original texture.

Computers have often been used to "translate" rolls, but never with anything like the finesse of Telarc's two Rachmaning records, entitled A Window in Time. Wayne Stahnke, an aerospace engineer, apparently conceived his idea while working at Nasa; it involves a computer program containing a mathematical model of the pneumatic mechanism originally used to play the roll. But the results, played through a computerised Bösendorfer, banish all thoughts of science. Here at last is the airy magic the unsmiling maestro must have exuded in reality.

ON THE other hand, if you don't mind the boxy acoustic you can get a very decent idea of Rachmaninov's disc recordings in Philips's Great Pianists

pianist, Telarc has just unveiled the month's releases include Jan Paderewski, Benno Moseiwitsch and the divine Clara Haskil, plus an Alfred Cortot record that really does stop me in my tracks. Launching into Schumann's turbulent Kreisleriano, the French guru shoots clean off the rails in bar six and stays off them, floundering desperately, for the whole of the first piece. This isn't great pianism; it's an absolute hoot. How can its inclusion possibly be justified?

Tom Deacon, whose brainchild this series is, sees no reason to apologise. "All right, it's a mess. But he was a great pianist, and his Schumann has a wonderful glow. I'd rather hear his wrong notes than any proficient planist's right ones. We have every right to put into the edition someone who has his eye on poetry, rather than merely on notes. The saddest thir now is to be confronted with Maurizio Pollini in concert, because it has nothing to do with the Pollini we know from records. The pursuit of technical perfection is the curse of modern musical life." I can only agree.

## THE COMPACT COLLECTION

ROB COWAN ON THE WEEK'S CD RELEASES

THE YOUNG man whom Tchaikovsky once considered to be his successor, and who went on to pen this century's most famous piano concerto, suffered a devastating blow when, in 1897, his First Symphony was given the critical thumbs down. And yet "Rachmaningy One" positively seethes with Tchaikovskian passion. The outer movements suggest an imperious grandeur that spells Old Russia in every bar: the opening is black as night; the lyrical second subject is serenely beautiful, and the finale's rousing introduction (once used as the theme tune to Panorama) is both fierce and festive. It was almost 50 years

before the symphony enjoyed a second performance, and 20 more before a respectable commercial recording hit the shelves. Since then it has enjoyed the attentions accomplished maestros. not least Mariss Jansons, whose new EMI recording with the St Petersburg Philharmonic has colossal impact - especially from the lower strings and bass drum. Jansons is especially effective in the finale's dramatic opening, where distant muted horn-calls stop the thrilling first idea dead in

its tracks. The fill-up is Rachmaninov's surging evocation of Arnold Bocklin's painting The Isle of the Dead, with its swaying pulse and obsessively swelling lines. The performance is, if anything, even finer, and the sound quality is just as

impressive. Moving south, and with the heat full on, the harpsichordist Andreas Staier lights the touchpaper for some explosive pre-Classical "Variations on the Spanish Fandango" I doubt that many readers will have encountered a more viscerally exciting disc of (relatively) early music - certainly not in terms of nectormance standards. The opening selection is the best known, Antonio Soler's 10minute Fandango, with its sexy melody line. propulsive rhythms and

scorching harmonies. Staier rounds off his programme in the company of his fellowharpsichordist Christine Schornheim and Adela Gonzales Campa on castanets, for a powerhouse arrangement of the Fandango from Boccherini's Fourth Quintet. Both pieces are wild as the wind - though there are colourful, and occasionally more restful. diversions midway from the composers Sebastian de Albero, Josep Gallés. Felix Máximo Lopez and José Ferrer, Once sampled, Staier's sizzling Fandango extravaganza will be a favourite visitor to your CD tray. If you love Domenico Scarlatti, then you'll surely adore this superbly recorded

Sound quality takes something of a backward slide for a bewitching though sonically compromised 77 minutes in the company of the great Polish piano virtuoso Ignaz Friedman. Connoisseurs have been waxing lyrical over Friedman's playing for years, and for good reason. Who else launches Chopin's "Revolutionary" Study with such incredible finger velocity, raising an aural storm in the process but with every note intact? Mendelssohn's elfin E minor Scherzo is a rocket trailed by stardust; Chopin's A flat Polonaise is all thunder and pride, and Hummel's elegant Rondo becomes a tonal hurricane.

пгодгатите.

But rather than play the disc straight through, I would start at the very end (track 22) with the most poetic and subtly voiced performance of Chopin's 16th Nocturne ever recorded. Then, you might move back to tracks I (Hummei), 8 (Mendelssohn) and 9 (Friedman's own adorable "Elle Danse"). Four previously unissued tracks add further confirmation of Friedman's pianistic genius, and APR's annotation is exemplary.

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## **Guide to** Sushi

From its origins in Japan 1,000 years ago, Sushi has become a worldwide phenomenon. The Independent on Sunday's Guide to Sushi, published on March 14, outlines Sushi's history and culture, and explains the different varieties. Learn to prepare sushi at home with a simple step-by-step guide, and unlock the mysteries of this delicious, fresh and nutritious food with the Guide to Sushi.



## Mr Preview celebrates in style

YOU STILL half-expect to see André Previn emerge as he will surely be remembered: the Beatles-style haircut, the trendy polo-neck dress-shirt, a pop celebrity in classical music. Mr Preview, as Eric Morecambe so memorably dubbed him. What an extraordinary era that was.

But André Previn, senior citizen, the London Symphony Orchestra's Conductor Laureate, will have many good reasons for enjoying the age he now is. Two of them were on the bill of fare for this 70th birthday concert. They were English, naturally. They were old favourites, old affairs still

substantial score from Delius's

Or, at any rate, not all of it.

been performed before.

maturity which - incredibly, at works, which happened to

so late a date - had never share some of the same

REVIEW

LSO/ANDRE PREVIN BARBICAN LONDON

ongoing, his constant travelling

The love that Previn has always expressed for Vaughan Williams's Fifth Symphony is self-evident now in his ability to chart its pilgrim's progress without seeming to do so. Where his famous London Symphony Orchestra recording urged us, implored us, to share in the experience, to journey with him to that particular

glimpse at last the "Celestial City", the feeling now is one of simple contentment in the deep and abiding consolation that Vaughan Williams's Bunyaninspired work invokes.

The piece takes as long as it takes, and as long as it takes will never be quite long enough. The shadowy beasties that inhabit the mercurial scherzo are no longer as fleet-footed as they once were (Previn conveniently erases the composer's presto marking), but what was once a labour of love is now no labour at all.

The old Previn (as opposed to old Previn's) mannerisms

vantage point where we might remain. The arms still float almost involuntarily above the head to lend height to the sound, to lift those violins back up to where they belong. The left hand explicitly gestures a more intense vibrato, as if he himself were playing upon the entire section. And I don't think it's too fanciful to suggest that you hear his hard-earned authority in the sound now. The luminous string triads that He could even be better. stretched out before us at the

> vision and a reality. The LSO strings don't produce that for iust anybody And so to Britten's Spring

start of the Romanza were

both intangible and solid - a

plainly takes in it. From the very start, as assorted percussion play out the death-rattle of winter, it's the quirkiness, the English eccentricity of the invention that grahs you. English poetry found its musical match in Benjamin Britten. He could be just as jolly, fey, coy, rumbustious - and profound.

Henry Vaughan's "Waters Above" is ennobled in Britten's setting, the fine rain of string sound in memorable juxtaposition to WH Auden's "Out on the Lawn, in which the strings are eliminated in favour of

Symphony and the delight that darkly nocturnal woodwind. Previn's composerly ear so Roberta Alexander's plangent low notes sat well here alongside the mystical musings of alto flute and bass clarinet.
Her colleagues - Dame Felicity Lott Gooking very Aubrey Beardsley) and John Mark

Ainsley – were fine, too. And the LSO Chorus, as ever, excelled. That great moment in the finale (spring's last fling) where they beerily hurl out their giddy waltz while children's voices raucously counterpoint "Sumer is icumen in" feit like Previn's birthday present to himself. Younger

than springtime? In spirit. **EDWARD SECRERSON** 

### ON THE AIR BAYAN NORTHCOTT

WHAT A difference a presenter Life and Love during the First of informed partisanship can World War, but was overtaken make to a series such as Comby the blindness and paralysis poser of the Week. Over the last of his final years before he few days, the familiar Radio 3 could revise it for publication tones of Paul Guinery have and performance. Only in 1929, taken on a positively passionwhen he acquired an amanuensis in the young Eric Fenby, ate urgency in the cause of was he able to resume com-Frederick Delius. Less familiar works, such as the violin posing by dictation - extracting and piano sonatas, are not just passages from the 18-minute shapeless rhapsodies but span of A Poem of Life and structures generated by their Love, providing new links and own idiosyncratic processes, a different beginning and end-Guinery has argued, programing, and publishing the 10ming all four of them to prove minute result as A Song of it. But the most remarkable Summer. If this suggests a process of distillation, the token of his enthusiasm turned up in Tuesday's edition, with a opportunity to hear one score specially made recording by Frederick Delius - a work rediscovered Hulton Getty after the other on Tuesday the BBC Concert Orchestra revealed a far more radical under Vernon Handley of a transformation - as if you were

ing introduction. There follows ing the style of his far earlier Where the opening of A tone-poem Paris - perhaps for Poem of Life and Love is

seascape, A Poem of Life and - and a central section of Love has a longer, darkly gropheroic landscape evocations and big climaxes, little of which an Allegro conspicuously echo- survives in the more idyllic later score. As Delius left it, A

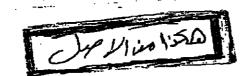
gap in his evolution and offers a fascinating insight into his creative process. Its recording and presentation also remind us that, in a musical environment that is increasingly dominated by the market, there are certain culturally vital services that Radio 3 alone is able to offer. Half an hour after the Delius

emergence fills a significant

première, Radio 4 offered its own variation on life and love in the first of a new series entitled The Musical Side of the Family. This featured the biographer Claire Tomalin recalling her mother, Muriel Herbert - a gifted pianist and song composer who studied at the Royal College of Music with Stanford, pleased Joyce and Yeats with her settings of their poems, and then - after the all-too-familiar pattern lost her creative impetus in I found this programme Delius worked on A Poem of Song of Summer is a serene suppressed narrative reasons hardly a masterpiece, but its marriage and child-rearing.

A selection of her song specially recorded for the programme by the baritone Richard Lloyd-Morgan, suggested an accomplished, if not overly original, style pitched somewhere between the Edwardian balladry of Roger Quilter (who encouraged her) and the more sparely pastoral Gerald Finzi

Tomalin's purpose, however, was not to plead for a critical reappraisal, but to convey the primal experience of absorbing this music at her mother's knee. Though parently recorde. \_. ... ... every carefully chosen phrase of her reminiscences came fraught with complex feeling affection, sadness, a certain guilt perhaps, such as the selfrealised tend to feel about parents who were prevented from fulfilling comparable gifts. extraordinarily touching.



listening to two quite different

## NEW FILMS

CENTRAL STATION (15) Director: Walter Salles

Starring: Fernanda Montenegro, Vinicius de Oliveira Rio's teeming rail terminus serves as the effective launchpad for Walter Salles's Oscarnominated Brazilian fable. A road-movie of sorts, Central Station trails Fernanda Montenegro's retired schoolmarm and her abandoned nineyear-old charge (played by Vinicius de Oliveira) PLEASANTVILLE (12) on a hunt through the badlands of Sertao for the been's missing father.

The trip takes in all facets of Brazil's disparate, displaced and poverty-stricken culture, yet Salles steadfastly refuses to make any heavyhanded political point here. Instead, his social critique remains implicit, low-down in the mix. The fine, unshowy acting is set off nicely by Walter Carvalho's haunting visuals, as Central Station blooms by degrees into a picture that is both intimate and universal. West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair, Notting Hill Coronet, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Chelsea Local: Croydon Clocktower

PATCH ADAMS (12) **Director:** Tom Shadyac

Starring: Robin Williams, Monica Potter Through the hallowed halls of medical college goes Hunter "Patch" Adams (Robin Williams); a winsome shock-doc who has the patients in stitches while giving a collective hernia to the stuffy establishment. Patch, you see, subscribes to the theory that laughter is the best medicine of all. Idling on your deathbed? Well, here's Patch to stick an enema bulb on his snout and send you off with a smile. Still not happy? No problemo: Patch has a whole heap more comedy tricks up the sleeves of his regulation white coat. Still that's Potch Adams: Awakenings without the angst, Dead Poets Society without

the heart. It's like the ultimate distillation of

the ultimate Robin Williams movie: the life sucked out and replaced by syrup. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

Director: Gary Ross

Starring: Tobey Maguire, Reese Witherspoon See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Barbican Screen, Odean Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

SCHIZOPOLIS (18) Director: Steven Soderbergh

Starring: Sleven Soderbergh

Between Soderbergh's The Underneoth (a boxoffice bomb) and last year's Out of Sight (a hit) came Schizopolis: a stop-gap experiment, a beaten retreat into art-house abstraction and evidence, perhaps, of a director in crisis.

Pieced together on a thrift-shop budget, Schizopolis is a bit of cinematic crazy-paving. Suburban manners, corporate paranoia, dental hygiene and the rituals of adultery are all deconstructed in energetic, scattergun fashion, though it's finally a shade too film-school wacky to warm to. While Schizopolis is undeniably the strangest film in the "American Independence" season that it's headlining, some of the other offerings (Clockwatchers, or Spike Lee's Four Little Girls) are more rounded and satisfying. Eye of God, Niagara Niagara and Sticky Fingers of Time are also showing. West End: Curzon Soho

Xan Brooks

## GENERAL RELEASE

AFFLICTION (15)

Sec "he independent Recommends, above. West End. ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

Jonathan Demme's adaptation of Toni Morrison's multi-layered Pulitzer Prize-winner. Oprah Winfrey's escapee slave struggles to cope with a visitation from a bewitched voodoo child who may (or may not) be the ghost of her dead daughter. Heartfelt acting and a vibrant visual sense paper over all manner of cracks. West End: Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

A BUG'S LIFE (T)

A Bug's Life sees humble insect Flik falling in with a raggle-taggle flea circus in an effort to save his community from marauding grasshoppers (headed by Kevin Spacey). The script throws in passably witty gags and the animation proves a feat of technical ingenuity. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odf 'n Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marke Arch, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

FESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Screen on Baker Street

HIDEOUS KINKY (15)

Through the teeming orange/red/turquoise backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's hippie single-mum, her two daughters unwillingly in tow. Winslet does well with a change-of-pace role as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated matriarch, and the child stars are startlingly good. West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Virgin Fulham Road

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)

Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's warts-andall biopic of the Du Pre sisters. West End: ABC Panton Street, Curzon Soho, Local: Richmond Odeon Studio

HOLY MAN (PG)

Jeff Goldblum plays Ricky, a TV executive. Fearful for his job, Ricky uses spiritual wanderer G (Eddie Murphy) as a frontman on his shopping show and sales go through the roof. G. in turn. teaches Ricky a few soulful lessons - you know about film never finds the right tone. Local cinemas

**HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15)** Essentially this is Shirley Valentine with an Afro American spin. but Angela Bassett works hard to make an impression among the slideshow of tourist-brochure visuals. West End: dramatic oomph. West End: ABC Swiss Centre Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA È BELLA) (PG) In Roberto Benigni's Oscar-nominated comedy he takes centre-stage as a clowning Jewish bookseller in fascist Italy. Spirited off to a death camp, he strives to convince his son that it's nothing more than an eccentric game. West End: Curzon Soho. Curzon Minema, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket Repertory: Phoenix Cinema. And local cinemas

PAINTED ANGELS (15)

Jon Sanders' revisionist western revolves around a frontier brothel presided over by Brenda Fricker's no-nonsense madam. Earthy. naturalistic acting goes hand in hand with Ge" Id Packer's evocative visuals, though the resolutely downbeat handling makes it slow-going at times. West End: Renoir

PERDITA DURANGO (18)

Alex De La Iglesia's quasi-sequel to David posturing wackiness. West End: Metro

Darren Aronofsky's pungent début idles between maths lesson and art class, as Sean Gullete's New York number-cruncher ponders a numerical code behind the holy Hebrew texts. What sustains Pi is the pure-blood ingenuity of its central conceit, its ongoing "mathematics is the language of nature" mantra and the louche, too-cool-for-school demeanour. It all adds up. West End: ABC Panton Street

**SAVING PRIVATE RYAN** (15)

In Steven Spielberg's Second World War drama, Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his squad on a compassionate mission to seek out a young private behind enemy lines - his three brothers have already been killed in combat - and return him home to safety. West End: Plaza. And local cinemas

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15) See The Independent Recommends abone

West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

THE THIN RED LINE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Clapham Picture House, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town. Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square. Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsen, Virgin Fulham Road, And local cinemas

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18)

A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, Ian Hart, Douglas Henshall et al) weave to and fro through David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban romance. Kane's screenplay is generally witty and well-observed, but the film cranks what might have been a sublime one-hour teleplay into double its natural length. Still, that's modern romance for you - you can't fit it into tidy boxes, no matter how hard you try. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. And local cinemas

TITANIC TOWN (15)

All aboard for Troubles-hit Belfast, circa 1972. The IRA and British forces are taking potshots at each other in the street. Civilians are dying in the life and stuff. Parts of Holy Man are funny, but the crossfire. To the rescue comes Julie Walters's concerned local mum, who lobbies for a ceasefire and finds herself caught between the opposing factions. Roger Michell's fact-based fable is well-intentioned and honestly rendered, but it's faintly lightweight, too. For a film implicitly about rage, waste and human passions, it's low on

URBAN LEGEND (18)

Jamie Blanks's stalk-and-slash romp is strangely bland and inconsequential bloodbath: fresh-faced teens meeting their grisly end in a drama as cold and schematic as a daytime talk show. West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS (18) Another troubling X-ray of American mores from In the Company of Men director Neil LaBute. West End: ABC Piccodilly, Metro

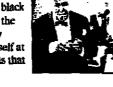
YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

Seasoned players Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan star in a contrived romantic comedy that's zapped out of its old-fashioned rut by a shrewd Internet plot hook: they squabble in daily life and get all gooey on line. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Striss Cottage, Screen on Baker Street. Lynch's Wild at Heart is a strutting caper. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin tequila-ed to the gills and running on a kind of Haymarket. Virgin Trocadero. Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

## THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

### THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Festen (15) Danish director Thomas Vinterberg's superlative black comedy (right) concerns the 60th birthday of a family patriarch who finds himself at the centre of dark secrets that unexpectedly emerge.



The Thin Red Line (15) Terrence Malick returns to the screen after a

20-year absence with a hugely ambitious film about the battle of Guadakanal. A war movie of a sort, though what that sort might be is uncertain.

Affliction (15)

Paul Schrader's bleak study in fatherhood and fatalism, adapted from Russell Banks's novel, stars Nick Nolte as a man struggling to escape the influence of his violent dad (James Coburn).

Shakespeare in Love (15)

This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow head a multi-star cast

Pleasantville (12)

Two Nineties teenagers are magicked into the world of a favourite Fifties sitcom and begin to exert a dramatic influence on its conformist black-andwhite idyll. A witty, inventive parable.

ANTHONY QUINN

### THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Shockheaded Peter

(Lyric Hammersmith, London) The deliciously sinister Struwwelpeter stories meet the macabre Tiger Lillies in a glorious, gorgeously gory evening of music theatre. To 10 Apr

Rive Heart (The Pleasance, London) Bracing comedy and a dark heart in Max Stafford-Clark's exemplary production of Caryl Churchill's playful doublebill (right). To 21 Mar

(The Albery, London) Sheila Hancock as the tight-fisted matriarch leads

The Dispute (The Other Place, Stratford) Marivaux's mordant 18th-century play about a sexual experiment is brought to life in this

RSC/Lyric Hammersmith co-production. To 20 Mar

a triumphant cast in Gorky's comedy. To 27 Mar

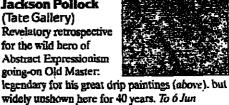
**Buried Alive** 

(Northcott, Exeter) Mike Alfreds' crack company, Method and Madness, in a new play by Philip Osment, specialist in matters of the heart. To 27 Mar.

DAVID BENEDICT

### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

**Jackson Pollock** (Tate Gallery) Revelatory retrospective for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism going-on Old Master:



Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever. Exquisite melanges of flesh and fabric, dreams of sex and money. To 25 Apr

Monet in the 20th Century (Royal Academy)

The gardens and lify ponds at Giverny dissolve into fiery lights, liquid reflections, depths and voids, and, in the circumstances, you will too. To 18 Apr

Disasters of War (Wolverhampton Art Gallery)

Three ages of European war through the etchings of Jacques Callot, Goya and Otto Dix. Black-and-white visions from the blackest of times. To 20 Mar

**Richard Deacon** 

(Tate Gallery, Liverpool) New World Order": more curvaceous assemblages of wood, metal, glass and plastic - some gigantic. some numble - by the Eighties sculptor. To 16 May

TOM LUBBOCK

CINEMA

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) → Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 6.15pm Hilary and Jackie 2.25pm, 6.25pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm x (Pl) 1.30pm, 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

ABC PICCADELLY

(0171-287 4322) © Piccadilly Circus Loved 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1.40pm, 4,05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

(0870-902 0402) & Leicester Square Affliction 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Elizabeth 6.05pm, 8.30pm E 1.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE ABC SWISS CENTRE
(0870-902 0403) & Leicester
Square/Piccadilly Circus The 39
Steps (1935 Version) 1.10pm,
3.05pm, 5pm. 7.05pm, 9pm
Hideous Kinky 1.50pm, 4.05pm,
6.15pm, 8.35pm 1 Think I Do 4.40pm, 9.10pm Titanic Town 2.25pm, 6.50pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road A. Bug's Life 4pm Patch Adams 1.15pm. 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 3.50pm. 6.30pm, 9.25pm You've Got M@il 1pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm

BARBIÇAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) ♥ Moorgate Pleasantville 6pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) Square Festen 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

**CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE** (0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Central Station 1.45pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Festen 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 6.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm You've

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park entral Station 1.30pm, 3.45pm,

**CURZON MINEMA** Corner/Knightsbridge La Vita è Bella 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

CURZON SOHO (0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm)) Court Road Festen 2.15pm.
 A.30pm. 7pm. 9.30pm Four Little Girls 12.15pm.
 Jackle Girls 12.15pm. 9.15pm
 Hilary and Jackle 6.45pm Schizopolis 4.45pm La Vica è Bella 1 pm. 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE 7.40pm Factor Paints (III). 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.40pm The Prince of Egypt 1.15pm Psycho 11.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 6pm. 8.45pm, 11.30pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) © Notting Hill Gate Buffalo 66 11.15pm The Thin Red Line 1.10pm, 4.30pm,

(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus Perdita Durango 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.15pm Your Friends and Neighbors 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) Motting Hill Gate Central Station 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

OPEON CAMDEN TOWN (08705-050007) & Camden Town A Bug's Life 11.40am. 1.35pm Patch Adams 12.05pm, 3.35pm. 6.05pm, 8.45pm, 11.15pm Pleasantville 11.45am, 2.20pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm, 11.10pm Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm. 8.20pm, 11.00pm The Thin Red Line 11.55am, 3.25pm, 7.40pm, 11.05pm This Year's Love 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 6.50pm, 11.20pm You've Got M@il 12.35pm, 5.50pm

ODEON HAYMARKET (08705-050007) ← Piccadilly Circus Stepmom 12,35pm, 3.10pm,

ODEON KENSINGTON (08705-050007) © High Street Kensington Patch Adams 12.40pm. 3.35pm. 6.30pm. 9.30pm, 12.25am Pleasantville 12.30pm. 3.25pm, 6.20pm. 9.15pm

Shakespeare In Love 12.25pm, 3.20pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm, 12.05am The Thin Red Line 12.05am The Thin Red Line 12.45pm. 4.25pm, 8.05pm, 11.45pm This Year's Love 12.15am La Vita è Bella 1.05pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm, 12.05am You've Got M@U 12.50pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 9.35pm, 12.30am

**ODEON LEICESTER SQUARÈ** 

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (08705-050007) & Marble Arch A Bug's Life 1.55pm, 4.05pm Enemy of the State 11.50pm Enemy of the State 11.50pm Patch Adams 12.55pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 11.55pm Pleasantville 12.40pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm. 9.15pm Shakespeare In Love 12.50pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The Thim Red Line 1.05pm, 4.35pm, 8.10pm, 11.40pm This Year's Love 12midnight You've Got M@il 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm, 11.45pm

ODEÓN MEZZANINE 

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Pleasantville 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.40pm, 3.20pm. 8.25pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4.05pm, 7.45pm You've Got M@il 12.15pm. 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

**ODEON WEST END** 6.15pm, 8.50pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) O Piccadilly Circus Everest 4.45pm, 9.05pm 1.5 (MAX) 2.40pm, 7pm T-Resc Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm. 5.45pm. 8pm. 10.05pm

PLAZA PLAZA
(0990-888990) ← Piccadilly Circus
A Bug's Life 1pm. 3.15pm
Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3pm,
5.45pm, 8.45pm Saving Private
Ryan 12.30pm. 4.15pm, 7.45pm
Star Trek: Insurrection 6pm,
8.30pm The Truman Show
1.45pm, 4pm. 6.30pm, 9pm RENOIR

Central Station 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Hideous Kinky 1.50pm, 6.35pm Painted Angels 4.10pm, 8.55pm

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/ $\oplus$  Brixton Belowed 8.40pm, 12midnight Central Station 2.15pm, 4.35pm, 5.55pm, 9.15pm, 11.35pm La Grande lilusion 1.55pm Pleasantville 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm, 11.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1.45pm, 6.40pm The Thin Red Line 1.30pm, 4.50pm, 8.10pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 4.20pm, 9.10pm, 11.40pm La Vita e Bella 3.35pm, 6.10pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) ⊕ Baker Street The Celebration 3.10pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@il 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) & Angel The Thin Red Line 3pm, 7.30pm SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3366) © Belsize Park Central Station 4.30pm, 9.15pm La Vita è Belia 2.10pm, 6.50pm UCI WHITELEYS

BEXLEYHEATH 1.30pm. 3.50pm. 6.15pm Madeline 2pm Patch Adams 1pm. 3.40pm, 6.25pm. 9.10pm Pleasantville 12.30om. 3.30om. 6.30pm, 9.20pm Shake Love 1.20pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.15pm, 4.30pm, 8.20pm This Year's Love 4,20pm. 7pm. 9,40pm La Vita è Bella 12noon. 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm You've Got M@ii 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

**VIRGIN CHELSEA** Square/South Kensington Central Station 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm

Pleasantville 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm La Vita è Bella 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm.

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD
(0870-907 0711) South
Kersington Hideous Kinky 2pm,
4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Little
Voice 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 7pm,
9.20pm Patch Adams 1.10pm,
3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm
Stakespeare in Love 12.50pm,
3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The
Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5.10pm,
8.40pm You've Got M@il 1pm,
3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) • Piccadilly Circus Pleasantville 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm La Vita è Bella 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 3.15pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO
(0870-907 0716) © Piccadilly
Crous Beloved 12.50pm, 4.20pm,
8pm A Bug's Life 12.05pm,
2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm
Bulworth 9pm Enemy of the
State 12.00pm, 5.40pm,
8.30pm, 11.20pm The Exorcist
(25th Anniversary Rerelease)
11.30pm How Stella Got her
Groove Back 11.30pm Patch
Adams 12.20pm, 3jpm, 5.50pm,
8.40pm, 11.30pm Shakespeare In
Love 172noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm,
8.20pm, 11.20pm Urban Legend
12.50pm, 13.30pm, 6.10pm,
8.40pm, 11.10pm Vou've Got
M@il 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm
8.50pm, 11.30pm VIRGIN TROCADERO

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square Beloved 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.20pm A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Bulworth 3.55pm, 8.50pm, 11.25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 11.50pm The Opposite of Sex 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 11.10pm Pleasantville 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, 11.50pm Practical Magic 12.55pm, 6pm Rush Hour 11.50pm Urban Legend 11.50pm, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm, 11.35pm Very Bad Traings 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 4.15pm, Very Bad Trings 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm, 11.30pm You've Got M@il 12noon, 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 3.30pm, 5.40pm, 11.20pm, 12midnight.

### **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) 

Park Royal Beloved 2.40pm, 6.10pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 5.40pm, 7.50pm, 10pm Enemy of the State 11.20pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 12.35am Patch Adams 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.50pm, 12.30am Pleasantville 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm, 12.20am Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 5.20pm, 8pm, 9pm, 11.40pm This Year's Love 9.40pm, 1.2midnight Urban Legend 9.40pm, 12midnight Urban Legend 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm Very Bad Things 12.10am Vou've Got M@il 12.30pm, 3.20pm,

6pm, 8.40pm, 11.30pm ODEON (08705-050007) & High Barnet A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm Patch Adams 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm 1.30pm, 3.43pm, 6.33pm, 8.50pm, 8pm, 8.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 3.50pm, 7.45pm You've Got M@li

ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 4pm Jack Frost 1pm Patch Adams 12,45pm, 3,45pm, 6,45pm, 9,30pm Shakespeare In Love 1,15pm, 6,05pm, 8,40pm You've Got M@B 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm

6.20om. 8.45om

CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 5.40pm, 7.50pm Litzle Voice 2.15pm, 7pm, 11.40pm Patch Adams 12noon, 2.25pm, 4.50pm. 7.20pm, 9.45pm, 12.10am Pleas-ancidle 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm, 12.10am Saving Private Ryan 12.25pm, 4.25pm, 8pm, 11.20pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 11.45pm Stepmom 1.20pm, 4.15pm, 7pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4.20pm, 7.50pm, 11.20pm This Year's Love 9.50pm. 12.20am Urban Legend 9.35pm, 11.45pm La Vita è Bella 4.30pm, 9.15pm You've Got M@II 12.25pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm, 12.15am

ODEON (08705-050007) BR: ODEON (08705-050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South A Bug's: Life 12.25pm, 2.40pm, 4.55pm Patch Adams 1.35pm, 4.25pm, 7.05pm, 9.35pm Pleasantville 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Tith Red Line 1.15pm, 5.05pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@II 7.10pm, 9.45pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-461 1278) BR: Catford Patch Adams 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: West/East Croydon Central Sta-tion 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm + Short SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon A Bug's Life 5.40pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain 8pm. 11.15pm Lai Baadshah 11pm Patch Adams 5.30pm. 8.10pm, 10.45pm You've Got M@il 5.35pm. 8.20pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon A Bug's Life tpm, 3.30pm, 4.10pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Enemy of the State 11.10pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 12.10am Patch Adams 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm, 12.25am Pleasantville 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm, 12.05am Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Thin Red Line 1.40pm, 5.05pm, 8.25pm, 11.55pm This Year's Love 2pm, 4.35pm, 7.10pm, 9.55pm, 12.30am Urban Legend 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.45pm, 12.15am You've Got M@il 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm, 11.40pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680

ARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) O Dagenham Heathway A Bug's Life 1.50pm, 3.55pm, A Bug's Life 1.50pm, 3.55pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm, 10.40pm Patch Adams 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm, 11.20pm Pleasantville 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm, 12.10am Shakespeare in Love 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 2pm, 4.50pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm, 9pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm, 11.50pm Urban Legend 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm, 12midnight Very Bad Things 12midnight Very Bad Things 11.25pm Vou've Got M@ii 1.40pm. 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm

EALING VIRGIN LIXERIDGE ROAD (0870-907 0719) BR/9 Ealing Broad-way Patch Adams 12.30pm, 320pm, 6pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 4.30pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@li

2.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm EDGWARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) ↔ Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for times Daag phone for times Fire Phone for times Kachche Dhaage phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Har phone for times You've Got M@ll 5.30pm, 8.20pm Zakhm phone for

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Hale Beloved 7.30pm, 11pm A Bug's Beloved 7.30pm, 11pm A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 2.50pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.45pm, 10.10pm Enemy of the State 11.40pm Holy Man 12.20am How Stella Got her-Groove Back 8.50pm, 11.30pm Hum Aapke Hain Kosm.,! 5.15pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 9.20pm, 12midnight Pleasantville 1.10pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 12.10am Sav-ing Private Rivan 3.30pm, Shake, ing Private Ryan 3.30pm Shake-speare in Love 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 5pm, 7.55pm, 8.30pm, 11.20pm This Year's Love 2.10pm, 6.45pm, 7.05pm, 9.50pm Urban Legend 7.15pm, 10pm, 12.30am La Vita è Bella 3 05pm, 6.05pm, 9pm You Got M@ii 12.40pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm

**ELEPHANT AND CASTLE** CORONET (0171-703 4968) BR/O Elephant & Castle Patch Adams 3.40pm. 6.05pm. 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@li 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Aa Ab Laut Chalen 11.10am, 2.35pm, 6.15pm, 9.45pm A Bug's Life 11am. 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.50pm Daag 2.40pm, 9.20pm Hum Aapke Hain Koun.! 11.20am, 6pm Kachche Dhaage 11.30am, 5.45pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 11.30pm La Warls 2, 30pm, 9pm Lai Badshah 11.30am, 3pm, 8.10pm, 9.50pm Little Voice: 6pm My Name is Joe 12midnight Patch Adams 11.30am. 2pm. 4.30pm. 7pm, 9.30pm, 12midnight Pleasantville 11am., 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9,20pm, 12midnight Saving Private Ryan 1.30pm, 5.10pm, 8.50pm

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Shakespeare in Love 10m. Shakespeare in Love 1 pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm. 9pm Stepmom 11.50am, 2.20pm, 7.20pm The Thin Red Line 11.20am, 1 pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm, 6.10pm, 8pm, 9.40pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 11.30am, 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm, 11.15pm Urban Legend Som, 9.50pm, 12.20am 6.50pm, 8.55pm, 11.15pm Groan Legend 5pm. 9.50pm, 12.20am You've Got M@II 11.10am. 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Zakhm 11.40pm

FENCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE FINCHLEY ROAD (0171-604 3059) & Finchley Road A Bug's Life 1.30pm. 3.50pm. 6.10pm. 8.20pm Patch Adams 12.30pm. 3.10pm. 5.50pm. 8.25pm Pleasantville 1.15pm. 3.55pm, 6.40pm. 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm. 3.40pm. 6.20pm. 9.15pm The Thin Red Line 1pm. 2pm. 4.25pm. 5.30pm. 8pm. 9pm This Year's Love 1.20pm. 4pm. 6.30pm. 9.10pm Urban Legend 10.25pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm. 3.25pm, 6.05pm. 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE FINCHLEY

3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE NORTH FINCHLEY (0181-446 9344) De East Finchley/Finchley Central A Bug's Life 12noon. 2.10pm. A Bug's Life 12noon. 2.10pm. 4.20pm. 6.30pm. 8.30pm Enemy of the State 11.20pm Patch Adams 12.55pm. 3.30pm. 6.15pm, 9pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville. 1.20pm. 4pm. 6.40pm. 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.35pm. 3.20pm, 6pm 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 12.45pm, 4.40pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 4.45pm, 9.50pm. 12.15am Urban Legend 1.15pm. 3.40pm. 4.43pm, 5.3opm. 12.13am order ban Legend 1.15pm, 3.40pm. 7.20pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things 11.50pm La Vita é Bella 2pm. 7.10pm You've Got M@il 1.05pm.

3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm **GOLDERS GREEN** Green Patch Adams 2.45pm.

GREENWICH GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Pleas-antville 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm. 31.30pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm The Thin Red Line 4pm, 7.30pm, 10.55pm This Year's Love 11.45pm You've Got M@il

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-907 0718) & Ravenscourt Park A Bug's Life phone for times Jungle 2 Jungle phone for times Patch Adams phone for times Shakespeare in Love phone for times The Thin Red Line phone for times You've Got M@il phone

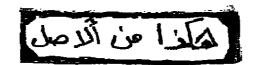
NAME STEAD
ABC (0870-902 0413) Belsize
Park A Bug's Life 1.15pm Jack
Frost 1.05pm Patch Adams
2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2.35pm, 5.15pm,
8.15pm You've Got M@il 2pm,
5.40pm, 8.20pm

SAFARI (0181-426 0303) + Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Fire 7pm Hum Aapke Hain Koun..! 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.45pm Lal

Baadshah 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) O Harrow-on-the-Hill Belowed 6.20pm A Bug's Life 11.20am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Enemy of the State 10.50pm Patch Adams 12.20pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm 12.30pm, 3 15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm Pleasantville 12.50pm. 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9 15pm, 12mid-night Shakespeare in Love 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm. The Thin Red Line 12.50pm. 1.50pm. 3.50pm. 5.30pm. 7.40pm. 9pm. 11.10pm This Year's Love 12.20pm. 3.25pm. 9.55pm Urban Legend 12.00pm. 3.20pm. 5.20pm. 7.50pm. 10.10pm. 12.20pm Yery Bad Things 12.20am You've Got M@il 1.20pm. 4pm. 6.45pm. 9.30pm. 12.10am

HOLLOWAY ODEON (08705-050007) + Holloway Road Beloved 1.35pm. 5.10pm, 8.45pm A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.35pm, 7.50pm, 10.05pm Patch Adams 1.55pm. 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.45pm Pleas-antville 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm The Thin Red Line 1 20pm. 4.55pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm You've Got M@il 1.25pm, 4.10pm. 6.55pm, 9.40pm

ODEON (08705-050007) & Gants Hill A Bug's Life 11.55am, 2pm, 4pm, 6.05pm Madeline 12.40pm Patch Adams 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.50pm. 8.30pm Pleasantville 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 8.05pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm. 4pm, 7.30pm You've Got M@II 2.40pm 5.40pm, 8.20pm



KILBURN
TRICYCLE CINEMA (0171-328
1000) & Kilburn La Vita è Bella 4pm, 7pm, 9,15pm

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) BR: Kingston Jack Frost 12.50pm. 3.05pm Patch Adams 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.05pm You've Got M@II 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705-050007) & High-

gate A Bug's Life 2.15pm, 4.15pm Parch Adams 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 4.35pm, 7.50pm This Year's Love 6.20pm You've Got M@II 8.40pm PECKHAM PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235

3006) BR: Peckham Rye Beloved 4.15pm, 7.35pm, 10.55pm A Bug's Life 5pm, 7pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 9.05pm 11.40pm The Parent Trap 1.50pm Patch Adams 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm Pleasantville 4.10pm. 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11,45pm The Prince of Egypt 11.45am The Thin Red Line 4.10pm. 7.30pm. 6.50pm, 9.20pm, 11.50pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-902 0407) BR: Purley Patch Adams 5.40pm, 8.20pm Pleasantville 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.55pm You've Got M@il 2.05pm.

ABC (0870-902 0401) ₱ Putney ABC (0870-902 0401) & Putney Bridge. BR: Putney. Patch: Adams 2.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Shake-speare in Love 2.15pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm You've Got M@il 2.15pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705-050007) BR/G-Richmond Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4,30pm,

**ODEON STUDIO (08705-050007)** BR. & Richmond A Bug's Life 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm Hilary and Jackie 1.30pm Little Voice 9.30pm Pleasantville 1pm, 3.40pm 6.20pm, 9pm This Year's Love 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm You've Got M@il 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm. 9.10pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-902 0419) BR: Romford. Patch Adams 2,10pm, 5,10pm, 8.10pm Pleasantville 2.20pm 5.20pm. 8.20pm You've Got M@i 2.35pm. 5.30pm. 8.40pm

**ODEON LIBERTY 2 (06705-050007)** BR: Romford A Bug's Life 12.10pm. 2pm, 2.30pm, 4.15pm, 4.50pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 8.40pm Patch Adams 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm Pleasancelle 12.30pm, 3.10pm. 6.20pm. 9pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.40pm. 6.10pm. 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.30pm This Year's Love 1.30pm. 4.40pm, 6.55pm. 9.15pm Urban Legend 9.10pm You've Got M@ll 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Patch Adams 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Saving Private Ryan

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) BR: Cricklewood A Bug's Life 2.15pm. 4.35pm. 7pm How Stella Got her 4.35pm. /pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 11.45pm Parch Adams 1pm. 3.45pm. 6.30pm, 9.15pm. 12midnight Pleasantville 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm, 12midnight Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm, 11.45pm The Thir Red Line 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.30pm Thir Works Love 1.5pm, 8.20pm This Year's Love 9.15pm. 12midnight Urban Legend 12mid-3.45pm. 6.20pm, 9pm

**STRATFORD** NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East A Bug's Life 1.30pm. 3.35pm Patch Adams 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm Pleas-antville 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8pm, 10.35pm The Thin Red Line 3pm, 6.20pm, 9.45pm This Year's Love 10.45pm You've Got M@il 5pm, 7.45pm, 10.15pm STREATHAM

ABC (0870-902 0415) BR: Streatham Hill Patch Adams 2.15pm. 5.45pm. 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 5.35pm, 8.25pm This Year's Love 5.25pm, 8,30pm ODEON (08705-050007) BR:

Streatham Hill-© Brixton Beloved 7.15pm. 4.45pm. 8.15pm A Bug's 12.20pm, 2.40pm, 5p 7.20pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 9 35pm Pieasantville 1.30pm, 4 10pm, 6 50pm, 9,30pm The Thin Red Line 1,10pm, 4,40pm, 8,10pm You've Got M@II 1,40pm, 4,20pm, SURREY QUAYS

UCI (0990-888990) ← Surrey Quays Beloved 8.30pm A Bug's Life 1 05pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, opm, 8,40pm Holy Man 12midnight How Stella Got her Groove Back 11pm Jack Frost 2.10pm, 4.40pm Little Voice 5.50pm Madeline 1.30pm, 3.40pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.40pm Shakespeare in Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Stepmom pm The Thin Red Line 12 40pm, 4:15pm, 8pm This Year's Love 6:50pm, 9:30pm Urban Leg-end 9:40pm, 12:05am You've Got M@ii 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm,

UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR; Sutton & Morden A Bug's Life 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Little Voice 7pm Madeline 2.15pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.45pm. speare in Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm, 12midnight There's Something About Mary 11.15pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4.15pm, 8pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 9.20pm, 11.50pm You've Got M@ll 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm, 12.15am

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-688 2519) ← Turnpike Lane. Patch Adams 3.40pm. 6.05pm, 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Urban Legend 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (08705-050007) ← Uvbridge A Bug's Life 11.15am, 1.30pm, 8.45pm, 6pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm The Thin

WALTHAMSTOW stow Central Patch Adams 2.15cm. 5.15pm, 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2,10pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@il 1.55pm, 5.05pm, 8.15pm

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**WALTON-ON-THAMES** THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton-on-Thames Hideous Kinky 3pm. 5.40pm The Thin Red Line 7.40pm You've Got M@il 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Patch Adams 3.40pm. 6.05pm. 8.30pm You've Got M@II 3.20pm. 5.50pm. 8.25pm

WILLESDEN BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) Willesden Green Shakespeare in Love 6.30pm, 9pm Small Soldiers 4.30pm

WIMBLEDON ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O Wimbledon/South Wimbledon A Bug's Life 1.10pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm, 11.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm. 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Thin Red Line 12,50pm, 4,10pm, 7,40pm, 10,55pm This Year's Love 11,20pm You've Got M@il 12,25pm, 3,10pm, 5,50pm, 8,30pm

WOOD GREEN NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) → Tumpike Lane Aa Ab Laut Chalen 7.15pm Daag 10.45pm Kachche Dhaage 3.30pm

ABC (0181-989 3463) & South Woodford Patch Adams 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@il 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm

WOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Pleasantville 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Urban Leg-end 3.45pm, 6pm

### CINEMA REPERTORY

CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place, SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Trois

Places Pour le 26 (NC) 8.30pm ICA CINEMA The Mali, SW1 (0171-930 3647) Hamam: The Turkish Bath (NC) 5pm Identification of a Woman (18) 6.30pm Salaam Cinema (NČ) 7pm, 9pm Zabriskie Point (18) 9.15pm

THE LUX CINEMA Hoxton Square. N1, (0171-684 0201) Film and The Women's Movement: Shorts (NC) 7pm Leigh Bowery in Perfor-mance (NC) 9pm

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 3232) Orphee (PG) 2.30pm Yaaba (PG) 6.15pm Sammy and Rosie Get Laid: Hanif Kurelshi (18) 6.30pm Only Angels Have Wings (NC) 7.30pm Only Angels Have Wings (NC) 7.30pm The Ex-orcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) (18) 8.40pm

PHOENIX CINEMA High Road, N2 (0181-444 6789) La Vita è Bella (PG) 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) The Mask of Zorro (PG) 1.15pm Pecker (18) 4pm Out of Sight (15) 6.30pm Psy-

cho (15) 9pm The Rocky Horror Picture Show (15) 11.45pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS CINEMA Crisp Road, W6 (0171-420 0100) Palookaville (15) 6.45pm + Buf-

falo 66 8.45pm WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) La Classe de Neige (15)

BRIGHTON **DUKE OF YORK'S CINEMA** (01273-602503) The Apple (SIb) (PG) 2.15pm, 6.45pm Central Sta-tion (15) 4.15pm, 8.45pm Don't Look Now (18) 11,15pm

Love (15) 5pm, 9pm

CUBE CINEMA (0114-907 4191) Buffalo 66 (15) 6.30pm, 8.45pm The Doom Generation (18) 8pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Central Station (15) 6.10pm, 8.20pm ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Festen (15) 12pm, 7.15pm Central Station (15) 2.15pm, 9.20pm Deliverance (18) 5pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 11.30pm

CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) The Fountainhead (PG) 6.15pm Majorettes in Space: Five Gay Tales from France (18) 7.30pm La Vie Revée des Anges (18)

**IPSWICH** PSWICH FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) La Classe de Neige (15) 6pm. 8.15pm Pecker (18) 6.15pm.

PLYMOUTH PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Pecker (18) 6pm.

### **CINEMA** COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON ODEON (0870-207977); A Bug's Life (U): Madeline (U): Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12); Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): imine (18); You've Got

BRISTOL BRISTOL CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01275-831099); Affiction (15): A Bug's Life (U): Elizabeth (15): Enemy of the State (15): Jack Frost (PG): Lai Badshah (PG); Lit-tle Voice (15): Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12); Practical Magic (12); Saving Private Ryan (15): The Secret Garden (U); espeare in Love (15); Stepmom (12): The Swan Princess (U): The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); Urban Legend (18); Very Bad Things (18); La Vita è Bella (PG) You've Got M@II (PG)

CARDIFF ABC (0541-555178); Jack Frost (PG): Mulan (U): Patch Adams (12); lle (12); Shakespeare

MONICO (01222-693426): A Bug's Life (U): Jack Frost (PG): Patch Adams (12): Shakespeare in

SOUTHAMPTON VIRGIN (0541-555132): A Bug's duction of Rodgers and Ham Life (Li): Hu Tu Tu (NC): Jack Frost stein's cowboy versus farmhand musical Lyceum Wellington Street (PG); Madeline (U); Patch Adams WC2 (0870-606 3446) ♥ Charing (12): Pleasantville (12): Shake-speare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15): You've Got M@il (PG) X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26.Jun, £10-£35.

### **THEATRE** WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today, times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. — Seats at all prices 9 — Seats at some prices Q — Returns only Mat-nees — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri. [7]: Sat

AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterioo. Mon-Sat 7,30pm, [4][7] 2,30pm, £7,50-£30, 180 mins.

 ANIMAL CRACKERS Regival of the chaotic Marx Brothers stage show. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045/cc 344 4444) BR/O Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, 141(7) 3pm, £9.50-£30.

ART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb, and Gary Olsen in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) ♣ Leic Sq. Yue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Layish family musical based on Dis-ney's carbon version of the favourite fairy-tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35, 150 mins.

• BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rus-

sell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ◆ Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

• BUTDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly.
Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) & Covent Gardery/Charing X. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £10-£30, half price Friday nees. 160 mins.

& CATS Ligad Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street. WC2 (0171-405) 0072/cc 404 4079) & Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £10.50-£35, 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Nicola Davies star in this hit Broadway musicel. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130 mins.

• THE COLOUR OF JUSTICE Dramatisation of the Stephen Lawrence case, Victoria Palace Vic-toria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 2pm, [7] 4pm, ends 13 Mar, £5-£15.50.

• THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) The Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forward through 37 plays. Criterion Pic-cadilly Circus. W1 (0171-369 1747) OP Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm. [7] 5pm. [1] 4pm. £10-£25.

O COPENHAGEN Drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) ◆ Covent Garden. Mori-Sat 7.30pm.

[5][7] 2.30pm, £10-£30, 145 mins. • DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this witty and wise comedy about the sexes. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45pm, £10-

DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield 1.30pm, 7.15pm Shakespeare in talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. London Apollo Hamth Crueen Caroline Street. W6 (0171-416 6022) ⊕ Hammersmith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm. E12.50-£32.50. 150 mins.

£25, concs available.

) GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film starring Darren Day. Cambridge Earlham Street, WC (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins.

• GROSS INDECENCY - THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE Moses Kaufman's play charts the events that led to Wikie's incarceration in Reading Gaol. With Michael Pennington and Leslie Phillips. Gleigod Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) ◆ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 2.30pm, £14.50-£29.50.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm, £12-£29.50, 110 mins.

 LIFT OFF Issues of race are explored in Roy Williams' new piece.
Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WCZ (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 9pm, ends 13 Mar, £10, concs £5.

STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EU-NUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Hal-Fevolutionary activist in David Halliwell's drama. Comedy Panton Street. SWI (0171-369 1731)

Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5][7]
3pm. ends 13 Mar. £7-£27.50.

MACBETH Rufus Sewell and Salby Dexter portray thwarted ambition. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/cc 344 4444) Picc Grc. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 5 Jun, £10.50-£28.50.

THE MEMORY OF WATER ALIson Steadman and Julie Sawalha star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's funeral. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR'+ Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5][7] 3pm. £8-£27.50.

OLES MISÉRABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's mas-Wi (0171-434 0909) + Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, E7-E35, 195 mins,

MISS SAIGON Musical which re sets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm. £8.50-£35.

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's evergreen whodunnit. St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 2.45pm. [7] 5pm. £10-£24.50. 135 mins.

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OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in the National's acclaimed pro-

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical, Her Majesty's Hay-market, SWI (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) OPEC OFC. Mon-Sair 7,45pm. [4][7] 3pm, £10-£35. 150 mins.

P RENT Musical inspired by La Bo-hème and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) & HoltomyTott Ct. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm. ct. Sh. Ct. So. 160 mins. £12.50-£32.50, 160 mins.

PRICHARD III Robert Lindsey stars [7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE COTTESLOE: Guiding Star
Jonathan Harvey's play giving a lender account of the life of Hillsborough survivor. In rep, today 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 5 Apr

black social satire stars Frances de la Tour. In rep, tonight 7.30pm. ● LYTTLETON: NT2000: A Streetcar Named Desire Tennessee Williams' enduring drama. Tonight

● LYTTLETON: The Forest Alan Ay-

ckbourn's new version of Ostrovsky's

OLIVIER: Troilus and Cressida John Caird and Trevor Numa direct Shakespeare's reinvention of Homes in rep, tonight 7pm. 150 mins. Okvier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18, NT2000: £4, concs £3.Day seats from 10am, South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) BR/+ Waterloo.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

THE PIT: Bad Weather Robert Holman's examination of the break Holman's examination of the break-down in family relationships. In rep-tonight 7.15pm. The Pit; £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) BR/& Barbican.

● YOUNG VIC: Talk of the City Stephen Poliakoff's drama explores me-Septem Potators Strams explores media control in the early days of TV and radio. In rep., tonight 7.15pm. RSC at the Young Vic. £14-£20. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) BR/& Waterloo.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER HIL 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees. London Palladium Argyll Street. W1 (0171-494 5020) © Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 1300m (613) 3300m (613) 7.30pm, [4]]7) 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 135 mins.

SHOCKHEADED PETER Junk opers, featuring the Tiger Lillies. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 10 Apr, E5-£18,

• SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW Slava Polounine returns to London with his mesmeric show, Piccadilly Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7] 2.30pm. £10-£27.50.

) STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew

Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-

cal Apollo Victoria Wilton Road.

SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/& Vic-torla, Mon-Sat 7,45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins. O AMERICAN IMPORTS: THREE DAYS OF RAIN Drama about the strange legacy left to two children by their father Donmar Warehouse

Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Mar, £8-£15, mats £8. TRUST Gary Mitchell's new play about a Belfast Mr Fixit. Royal Court

Upstairs (at The Amb

E10. concs E5. VASSA Stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her downtrodden family. Albery St Mar-tin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) O Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50,

West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm, ends 3 Apr,

THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama examining ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) + Leic Sq/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mins.

• WEST SIDE STORY New production of Bernstein's classic musical Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987) ⊕ Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £18.50-£35, 160 mins. O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND

Lloyd Webber's musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych WC2 (0171-416 6000) & Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50, 120 mins. O THE WOMAN IN RI ACK SU. san Hill's chilling ghost story. For-tune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

### **THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END**

ALMEIDA THEATRE Speer Klaus Maria Brandauer in Esther Vilar's tantalising new drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 27 Mar. £9.50-£19.50. concs available. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359

ARTS THEATRE Howard Crabtree's When Pigs Fly Gay musical poling fun at American culture. Tue-Fri Spm. Sat 6pm & 8.30pm, Sun 6pm, ends 3 Apr. E20-£25 concs £15. Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 3334) & Leicester Square.

BUSH THEATRE Howie the Rook te A nightmarish vision of contem-porary Dublin. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Mar. £10, concs £7. Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388) O Shepherd's Bush. TRICYCLE THEATRE Paddy Irish-

man, Paddy Englishman and Pad-dy...? Premiere of Declan Croghan's new piece looking at the male of the species. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 4.15pm & 8.15pm, ends 20 Mar. £8-£13.50, concs available. Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000) & Kilbum.

### THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE Dracula Stage adaptation of Bram Stoker's chilling horror story, with dark themes of passion, possession and mortality. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. ends 13 Mar. £9.50-£15.50, concs available Wote Street (01256-465566)

THEATRE ROYAL Cleo, Camping, Emmanuelle and Dick Terry Johnson's play tooks at the Corry On actors and recreates Sid James, Kenneth Williams and Babs Windsor on stage. 12 & 13 Mar, 8pm. £9-£22.50 Sawclose (01225-448844)

## FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call

CURRENTLY IN the studio working on new material, Jamiroquai have announced a summer date. Fronted by the big-hatted Jay Kay (right), the band's first mainstream success came with their debut album, Emergency on Planet Earth, which launched their unique blend of soul and acid jazz. This was followed by Return of the Space Cowboy, and last year's hit single, "Deeper Underground", taken from the film soundtrack, Godzilla. A new single and album will be released prior to a full UK tour. NEC, Birmingham (0121-780 4133) 12 Jun

Last Call

ALTHOUGH IT may not have received the rave reviews that greeted its initial opening in Stratford, it is still worth seeing one of the last West End performances of Bartholomew Fair. While director Laurence Boswell may have let the production coast along on momentum from its earlier warm reception, Ben Jonson's energetic comedy still manages to stand on its own two feet. Jacobean hedonism is given a 1990s kickstart as a multitude of wily oddball characters come together to enjoy all kinds of sleazy, fun. Young Vic. London SE1 (0171-928 6363) to 25 Mar

BRISTOL HIPPODROME THEATRE Phantom of the Opera Tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's huge hit musical Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 22 May £10-£30,

ncs available. St Augustines Parade

(0117-929 9444)

CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE vey's new play with the twin setting of Heaven and Earth. Tue-Said 7.45pm. mat Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. £5-£14.50 St Edwards

ssage (01223-503333) CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Pirates of Penzance Paul Nicholas stars in this swash-buckling re-working of the Gilbert and Sullivan assic. 12 & 13 Mar, 7.30pm. i.50-E21. concs available. Oaklands

£5.50-£21, concs ava Park (01243-781312) COLCHESTER MERCURY THEATRE The Ladykillers Stage adaptation of the 1955

Failing Comedy classic. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£15.50, concs available. Balk-erne Gate (01206-573948) EXETER NORTHCOTT THEATRE Burled Alive Philip Osment's play about a photographer who captures a horrific execution on film. Mon-Fri 7,30pm,

Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7-£15. Stocker Road (01392-493493) MILL STUDIO, YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Jump to Cow Heaven De-piction of an East End villain on the rum, Tonight 8pm, £8, concs £5, Mill-brook (01483-440000)

YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Suddenly Last Summer Tennessee Williams' chilling tale of motherly love starring Sheila Gish. Mon-Thur starring Shella Gish. Mon-Inur 7.45pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. £10-£12.50, concs available. Milibrook (01483-440000)

LEICESTER HAYMARKET THEATRE A Passtonate Woman Kay Mellor's com-ic and poignant comedy about a Leeds mum. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £6.50-£14.50, concs avail-

NEWBURY

ing Heads Janet Brown, Patricia England and Sophie Lawrence bring Alan Bennett's superb monologues to life. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. £6-£16.50. Bagnor (01635-46044) PLYMOUTH

WATERMILL THEATRE More Talk-

DRUM THEATRE, THEATRE ROYAL Messing with Medea Powerful adaptation of Euripedes' classic play about personal and political betrayal. 12 & 13 Mar, 7.45pm. £9, concs £6. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

POOLE ARTS CENTRE Barrum Roll up for Peter Duncan's performance in this classic circus musical. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. £12-£18.50 Kingland Road (01202-685222) SALISBURY

SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE The House of Bernarda Alba Federico Garcia Lorca's study of conflict be-tween a grieving mother and her daughters. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm. ends 20 Mar. £8-£15. concs available. Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

SOUTHAMPTON NUFFIELD THEATRE The Gin Game Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin star in this sensitive drama which centres around a game of Gin Rummy, Mon-Thur 7.30pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, mats Thur 1,30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 13 Mar. £9.50-£13.50. University Road (01703-671771)

STRATEORD-UPON-AVON THE OTHER PLACE The Dispute Marivaux's quasi-scientific drama, di rected by Neil Bartlett. Mon-Sal 7.30pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £10-£19, concs available. Southern Lane (01789-295623)

HALL FOR CORNWALL Six Dead Queens and an inflatable Hen-Henry VIII's six wives return to life in this swashbuckling comedy. Tonight 8pm. £6-£7.50, concs £5. Back Quay (01872-262466 WELLINGBOROLIGH

THE CASTLE Tess of the

es Musical adaptation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel abou a tragic country girl. 12 & 13 Mar. 7.30pm. £8.50. concs £7.50. Castle Way (01933-270007) WESTCLEFF-ON-SFA PALACE THEATRE CENTRE Twelfth Night Northern Broadsides' accessible production, directed by Barrie

Rutter Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Wed

2.30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 13 Mar. £6.50-£14.50, concs available. Lon-

don Road (01702-342564)

WINDSOR THEATRE ROYAL Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoal Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical version of the Bible story. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Mon, Fri, Sat, 5pm, Tue-Thur, Sat 2pm, ends 13 Mar, £6-£25. Thames Street (01753-853888)

## **EXHIBITIONS**

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SO-CIETY Between Two Worlds: Pio-neering British Women Photographers Including Madam Vievende and Julia Margaret Cameron. On the Water: Shela Ferran and Chrison ynaraja Artists from Barcelona present a series of large photographs. Memory and Skin: Joy Gregory Interactive photographic installation. Mon-Sun 9.30am-5.30pm, ends 21 Mar. £2.50, concs £1.75. The Octagon Galleries. Milson Street (01225-462841)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Mary Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's paintings. Mon. Tue, Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 28 Mar. free. Church Street (01273-290900)

BRISTOL ARNOLFINI Accelerator Work by an international group of artists, in-chaing Hilary Lloyd, Ako Sasao and Suzy Spence, Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 28 Mar, free. Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191)

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Picasso and Matisse Prints, drawings, and ceramics from the museum's colection. Ends 11 Apr.

lection. Ends 11 Apr.
Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary American Prints Early etchings of the East Coast, lithographs, woodcuts and screenprints. Ends 2 May. Rembrandt and the Passion The museum's outstanding collection of prints. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 20 Jun, free. Tummington Street 101223-337900 Inumpington Street (01223-332900) LONDON

BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa by Africa: A Photographic Wew Im-ages from sub-Saharan Africa. Picasso and Photography: The Dark Mirror Works exploring the Spanish master's relationship with photography. Mon, Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-6.45pm, ends 29 Mar. £5. concs £3, from Mon-Fri £3 after 5pm. Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 4141) & Barbiran. EC2 (0171-638 4141) → Barbican.

of a Design Icon Mini's designed by celebrities mark the 40th amiversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May. Modern Britain 1927-1939 A study of the period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth Mon-Sun 11.30am-6pm, ends 18 Jul. E5.25, concs £4 (to museum) Shad Thames SE1 (0171-378 6055)

NATIONAL GALLERY Portraits by Ingres Major exhibition of works by the 19th-century French artist. Mon the Intr-Cautry French artist, Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-10pm, Ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4, Wed 7pm-10pm £4. Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of Charles I Rare exhibition exploring the work of the 17th-century Italian artist, Mon & Tue. Thur-Sun 10am-form, Wed 10am-9pm, ends 23 May, free. Trafalgar Square WC2 (0171-747 2885) ↔ Charing Cross.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY Millais: Portraits Major retrospec-tive of portraits by the Pre-Raphaelile artist. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 6 Jun. E4, concs E3. St Martins Place WC2 (0171-306 0055) & Charing Cross.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th-Century Painting made in the 26 years after 1900. Mon Thur, Sun 9am-6pm, Fri & Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6, child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House, Piccadilly W (0171-300 8000) & Green Park. TATE GALLERY Art Now 17: Thomas

Demand's Tunnel Looped tunnel travel film exploring urban life. Ends 25 Apr, free.
Works on Paper and Paintings:
Francis Bacon Previously unknown works. Ends 2 May, free.
Jackson Politock Major retrospective
of the Abstract Expressionist's works.
Ends 6 Jun. £7.50, concs £5, family £19 (Firstcall 0870-842 2233 + ### 15 (Fiscal Out of State of

NORWICH NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50 - Working People: Sebastiao Salgado The acclaimed photographer portrays the harsh reality of Indian life. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sar 11am-4pm, ends 8 Apr, free, Re Yard, St Benedict's Street (01603-

13 Jun, free. Millbank SW1 (0171-

Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pr

TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century. Ends 11 Apr. Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

GLYNN VIVIAN ART GALLERY Versice Through Canaletto's Eyes Paintings and drawings by the Venetian artist. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 14 Mar, free. Alexandra Road (01792-651738)

## **CLASSICAL**

BRISTOL ST GEORGE'S BRANDON HILL Mikhail Kazakevich The pianist plays Mussorgsky and Chopin. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£12. Brandon Hill (0117-923 0359)

CARDIFF ST DAVID'S HALL National Orchestra of Wales/Kramer Works by Bandel including the Water Music. Tonight 7.30pm. £7-£20. The Hayes

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL London Philharmonic/Serebrier Music in-spired by tango and flamenco. Tonight 7.30pm. £5-£16, ♥ Waterloo.

## **OPERA**

LONDON LONDON COLISEUM Orpheus and Eurydice Gluck's opera in a revival of Martha Clarke's production. Tonight 8pm. £5-£55. St Martin's Lane, WCZ (0171-632 8300)

## DANCE

Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

CANTERBURY MARLOWE THEATRE Phoenix Dance presents Five World Pre-mieres Innovative new work from Dwight Rhoden. Tonight 7.30pm. £7-£11.50. The Friars (01227-787787)

SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEA-COCK THEATRE Paco Peña Flamenco presents La Musa Gitana World class flamenco. Tue-Sat 8pm, mat Sat. Sun 3pm. ends 20 Mar. £7.50-£35. Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222) & Holborn. QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL Spring

Company An exciting triple bill. 12 & 13 Mar, 7.45pm. £10-£13. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo. NEW VICTORIA THEATRE The Royal Ballet: Dance Bites New works by Mark Baldwin and William Tuckett. 12 & 13 Mar, 7.30pm. £9.50-£19.50. Peacocks Arts & En-

Loaded: Richard Aiston Dance

## tertainments Centre (01483-761144) **LITERATURE**

OKFORD GERMAINE GREER BOOK SIGN-ING Greer signs copies of her new book, The Whole Woman. Tonight 7pm. £1. Blackwell's Broad Street (01865-792792)

## **COMEDY**

RIGHTON GETTING INTIMATE WITH RICHARD WHITELEY AT KOMEDIA The cult Countdown quizmaster presents cult Countdown quizmaster presents an evening of gentle humour. 12 & 13 Mar, 8pm. £10, concs £8. Gardner Street (01273-647100)

KOOL EDDY'S SECRET CABARET

AT BAR ACUARIUS With Dan Antapolski, Tom Fynn, Karen Taylor, Brian Outwood and Jake Haggard. Tonight 8pm. £4. concs £3. Charing Cross Road, WC2 & Tot-tenham Court Road (0171-354 8995) ADAM BLOOM AT NORWICH ARTS

LONDON

SOUTHAMPTON SONGLEURS SOUTHAMPTON Feeturing Mark Billingham, Jeff Mirza, Donna McPhail and Terry Alderton. Tonight 8.15pm, £12. High Street (0845-6081818)

CENTRE The fast-paced stand-up. Tonight 8.30pm. E7. Reeves Yard, St.

## **CLUBS**

BRIGHTON BOUTIQUE AT THE BEACH Bent-BOUTHCUE AT THE BEACH DEUI-ley Rhythm Ace plus Mental Box and Wildstyle Bob Nimble. Foright 10pm-3am, £7.50. concs £6.50. Kings Road Arches (01273-722272)

LONDON THE GALLERY AT TURNMILLS Starring Seb Fontaine, Daniele Davoli and more. Tonight 10.30pm-7.30am. Clerkenwell Road. EC1 (0171-250 3409) BR/O Farringdon. £10, mems £8 before 12midnight.

INSPIRATION INFORMATION AT THE NOTTING HILL ARTS CLUB Patrick Forge spins soul, jazz, drum'n'bass and Latin-disco. Toright 5pm-1am. £5. mems £3. free before 8pm. Norting Hill Gate, W11 (0171-460 4459) Norting Hill Gate

SKINT AT THE WATERFRONT With

Indian Ropeman, Space Raiders, DJ Danielsan and DJ Sparky Light-

bourne. Tonight 10pm-2am, £5.50 in adv. King Street (01603-632717)

## **EVENTS**

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PORTSMOUTH
PLAY UP POMPEY Memorabile photographs and audio-visual plays celebrating the centenary of Portsmouth Football Club. Today 10am-5.30pm, ends 1 Apr. free. City

Museum & Art Gallery, Museum Road (01705-827261) REFER FESTIVAL A wide range of fine ales. including local brews, plus en-tertainment. Tonight 6pm-11pm, ends 13 Mar. £2, CAMRA mems free.

## Railway Club, Hillmorton Road, (01788-521761) MUSIC

RRIDGEND WISHBONE ASH Classic rock perennials. Bridgend Recreation Centre Angel Street (01656-657491)-

ight 8pm, phone for prices.

LONDON
BILLY BRAGG AND THE BLOKES The Bard of Barking follows up his Woody Guthrie project with a UK tour. Blackheath Halls Lee Road (0181-463 0100) BR: Blackheath. Tonight 7.50pm. É12, concs E10.50.

ster punks tour a new album, Hope Street. The Forum Highgate Road, NW5 (0171-344 0044) Tube/BR: Kentish Town, Tonight 7pm. £12.50. SIDI BOU SAID. PEOPLE'S FRIEND, GARLIC Claire Lemon's in-

STIFF LITTLE FINGERS Veteran UI-

fluential all-girl indie trio headline. The Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607 1818) BR/-9: Highbury & Islington, Tonight 8pm. £5. GLENN TILBROOK Squeeze's songsmith plays a mix of Evourites and cov-ers. The Millennium Suite, Chariton Athletic FC Floyd Road. SE7 (0181-333 4010). Tonight 7.30pm. £10.

niversary season continues. Royal Albert Hall Kensington Gore Span (0171-589 8212) © High Stream Kensington, Tonight 6.45pm, £20-£35. e Brian Setzer Orchestri Post-modern swing and jive from for-mer Stray Cat Brian Setzer. Shep-

CLIFF RICHARD Sir Cliff's 40th an-

O Shepherd's Bush. Yonight 7pm, £15. GOO GOO DOLLS Ironic post-grunge posturing from Greg Dulli and gang. University of London Union Malet Street WC1 (0171-664 2030) @

MAIDSTONE die-rock youngsters. Union Bar Pud-ding Lane (01622-753041) Tonight 8pm, phone for prices.

NORWICH

## MUSIC

BRIGHTON MINGUS MOVES Reedman Chris
Biscoe leads septet modelled on the legendary American bassist's mod-em jazz orchestras. The Lift Ouests Road (O1273-730515) Tonight 8pm.

EXETER TOWNSHIP EXPRESS South Africate township rock'n'roll, Exeter Phoenix Bradninch Place, Gandy Street (01392-667080). Tonight 8pm. hone for prices.

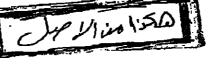
pheric Hammond organist 100 Club Oxford Street W1 (0171-636 0933) Oxford Circus, Tonight 8pm, £8. PAT CRUMLY BAND Jazz with B strong blues feel, 606 Club Lots RAY SW10 (0171-352 5953) & Fulfacia Broadway. Tonight10pm, £5.45.

Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060) iden Town, Tonight 8.30pm. £12, adv £10. GEORGE MELLY AND JOHN CHILTON'S PEETWARMERS The veteran raconteur and Satchmo-styled

9.15pm & 11.15pm, £20, adv £18. MONTY ALEXANDER TRIO The Jamaican piano populist. Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W! (0171-439 0747) & Leicester Square. Tonight

THE ALBION BAND Acclaimed contemporary folk group. Arts Centre Devizes Road (01793-614837)

MAIRE NI CHATHASAIGH AND CHRIS NEWMAN Harp and guitar-folk duo. Tower Arts Centre Romsey Road (01962-867986) Tonight 8pm. £7.50, concs £6.50.



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sh Empire Shepherd's Bush Green. W12 (0171-771 2000)

Goodge Street, Tonight 8pm, free. ONE LADY OWNER High-octane in-

UNDERWORLD Beaucoup Fish tour for the dance-crossover crew (Nal-versity of East Anglia Earlham Road (01603-505401). Tonight 8pm, £12.

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

LONDON GARY BALDWIN TRIO The almos

WILLIE TEE The New Orleans souljazz and R&B merchant Jazz Café

singer: Pizza on the Park Krights-bridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) © Hyde Park Corner. 12 & 13 Max

9pm & 11.30pm, £15, mems £8.

Tonight 8pm. £8, concs £7. WINCHESTER

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RADIO 1

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RADIO 2

(88-90-2MHz FM )

(97.6-99.8MHz FM )

Simon Mayo. See Pick of the Day. 6.30 Zoe Ball, 12.00 Jo

Dave Pearce. 6.00 Pete Tong.

Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe, 4.00

9.00 The Longest Radio Show in

- Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 Fabio

6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.

12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed

Stewart 5.05 Des Lynam. 7.00

Morley at the Musicals. 7.30 Fri-

day Night Is Music Night. Live

Northampton. Ken Bruce intro-

duces the BBC Concert Orches-

Wordsworth, with guest artists Kim Criswell, Michael Winsor and

pianist Kathryn Scott. At 8.15, dur-

ing the interval, Richard Baker in-

troduces the music of George

Gershwin on disc, played by pi-

anist Jack Gibbons 9.15 John le

Carre's Single and Single. 9.30

Listen to the Band. 10.00 David James. 10.30 Sheridan Morley.

11.45 The People's Psalms.

6.00 Lata Sharma.

(90.2-92.4MHz FM )

9.00 Masterworks.

11.00 Sound Stories.

10.30 Artist of the Week.

12.00 Composer of the Week;

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Con-

cert. Paul Barritt (violin), Catherine

Edwards (piano). Elgar: Violin Sonata in E minor, Op 82. Walton:

Bagatelle, Op 3; Reve d'enfant, Op

10: Dance caprice, Op 15; Petite

7.30 Performance on 3. Live from

St David's Hall, Cardiff, an all-Han-

del concert introduced by Chris

Kraemer, Catherine Bott and

Toccata. Albert Sammons:

2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

4.00 Music Restored.

4.45 Music Machine. (R) 5.50 In Tune.

RADIO 3

6.00 On Air.

chanson (R)

12.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00 -

from the Derngate Theatre,

tra, conducted by Barry

and acoverider. 4.00 - 7.00

the World. Ever! 11.00 Westwood



**EVENTS** AI.

PORTSMOUTH
PLAY UP POMPEY MORROS KÖN HILL PLAY OF POWER MEMORY planter apple and auto-rade play enterrang the control fortenanth Football Can't f thepin Court Solver or and 1 Apriles Alexander of Art Collect Ma-tering (1170):8272611 Honal Or-or Works by

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**MUSIC** 

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TIRIDGEND WESTIGONE ASH Classing **PERSONA** AND i licer tarpre **翻及河流** 

THE LY CRACE AND THERE Jan Barrin Harris of the break and the التهافيح Mack boath Halls in Raigh de Souza. Conductor Nicholas
Kraemer. Catherine Bott and THE HITTLE FINGERSIZE Rachel Elliott (sopranos), Robin

**Mari**i Por wer " SOLITE LEGIS SAID PEORE ್ಯಾಟ್ ಸಾಗ್ರಹಕ್ಕೆ the usuage to makes SKY PREMER 9唯 114

8.00 A Change of Heart (1997) (72229).
8.00 A Change of Heart (1997) (5303-9, 10.00
Carpool (1995) (89866). 12.00 Burning Secret (1986) (43857), 2.00 A Change of Heart (1997) (1387). 4.00 The Wedding (1997) (554), 6.00 Carpool (1996) (28831).
A Lattice (1997) (854), 6.00 Carpool (1996) (28831).

A Lattice (1997) (1997) (1997) (1998) (19 mini fallati a

(1997) Fill MARY (1997) 11.50 The Splittle Gril (1996) (1997) 11.50 The Splittle Gril (1996) 7.00 Shepherd on the Rock (1994) (69183).
9.00 Gus (1975) (42925). 11.00 They
Wortt Believe Me (1947) (19812). 1.00
Shepherd on the Rock (1994) (4674). 2.00
Gus (1976) (2786). 5.00 Dawnston Alley
(1977) (88305). 7.00 preview (5164). 7.30
UK Top Ten (2831). 8.00 Ferranes Fatales
(5812). 8.30 Movie Magic (4947). 9.00 187
(1997) (786170). 12.50 Shadow Consnicos 7.00 Shepherd on the Rock (1994) (69183). LATER TO . **第**日本 5 (1997) (746170), 12.50 Shadow Conspiracy (1997) (833226), 2.35 The Stence of the Harns (1993) (8599874), 4.00 Midnight (1993) (1998) (27787), 5.40 - 745 Darmation Alley (1977) (26788348).

HARTOTANI HARTOTANI HARTOTANIA (1940) (79605) 6.00 SKY CRIENIA The Desperate Hours (1955) (2569184). (2501909) 8.00 Horkytonk Man (1982) 10.00 The French Connection (1971) (7813270). See Pick of the Day. 11.45 The French Connection II (1975) (4809386). See Pick of the Day. 1.40 The Reinbow (1989) 1839) (29648058), 4.55 Close

1889 (24648088) 4.55 Close.

1.05 Short Attention Span Chema
412(638) 8.00 Cabaret (1972)
13300589, 10.10 Scanners (1981)
9900279, 12.00 Rebid (1977) (9698226). 1.35 Pierrot Le Fou (1965) (8059674). 1.30 - 6.0 French Kles (1995) (4547139). XISCOVERY CHANNEL 1.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures 175831) 4.30 A River Somewhere (9134021) .171015), **5.00 Time Travellers (9134021)** 1.30 Terra X (1162367), **8.00 Wildie** SOS 152960) 6.30 Untarried Africa (3085387 130 The Quest (1172744) 8.00 Outback

dventures (9439673), 8.30 Uncharted frica (4289170), 9.00 Test Pilots (8888763). ## Late (## Loop | Fauld | 1851 | 1905 | 18887/83) | 4.00 The Great Egyptiers (18558522) | 1.00 Weapons of War (## 1875-973) | 12.00 | 1.00 Terra X (9163503) | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.3 ime Travellers (3336787), 2.00 Close.

.00 Count Duckula (78831), 7.30 The

## FRIDAY RADIO

### PICK OF THE DAY

hospitalised yet, Simon Mayo wreck of the gold-carrying entertaining fatigue-induced hysteria by now, on the second day of his bid to set the world record for the longest continuous Relief (R1 to 10pm).

The Friday Play (9pm R4), "Fisher of Men", is a Welsh-voiced drama, partly written in verse, by

Blaze (countertenor), Andrew Mur-

gatroyd (tenor), Matthew Harg-

Chorus of Wales. Water Music:

on the Phone. Everywhere you

turn you hear Baroque music,

from telephone switchboards to

railway station platforms. Mark

Russell takes a quizzical look at

since the Baroque with the help of

Brian Eno and Nicholas McGegan.

8.45 Concert, part 2. Dixit domi-

The 'laureate of grot' turns his attention to a small town in Texas.

Sharp presents 'The Opening of

the Mouth', a major new work by

Richard Barrett for voices, instru-

ments and electronics. It explores

themes of death and the under-

ian rituals and the poetry of Paul

made specially for tonight's broad-

Celan. This studio realisation.

cast, is performed by the Aus-

12.00 Composer of the Week:

Tchaikovsky. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

(10pm Sky Cinema), the creation

which won Gene Hackman a

Best Actor Oscar in 1971. Done

up in his trademark porkpie

hat and raincoat, he shines in

William Friedkin's vérité-style

film about Doyle's stubborn true-

life efforts to smash a drugs ring,

ably assisted by his partner, Roy

Scheider (right). Watch for the

stunning - and often replicated -

Chris Evans Breakfast Show (\$1102), 8.30 Hollywood Squares (\$1925), 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (\$1725), 10.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (\$3522), 11.00 Guilly!

(73386), **12.00** Jenny Jones (99763), **1.00** Mad about You (77102), **1.30** Jeopardy

(86299), 2.00 Sally Jessy Rapheel (31812). 3.00 Jenny Jones (71893), 4.00 Guity!

(20228), 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (2657). 6.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (4299).

6.30 Friends (8251). 7.00 The Simpsons (1996). 7.30 The Simpsons (7763), 8.00

Best the Crusher (91302). 9.00 Really Caught in the Act (21386). 10.00 Cops

SKY SPORTS 1

(24473), 11.00 Friends (91657), 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager (23164), 12.30 The Commish (43042), 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (5405969).

6.30 Futures in Sport (65893) 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (4855305) 725 World

Sports Carilla Records 225 225 (2016)

Westing the Bederation Superstars (57654).

8.35 You're on Sky Sports (5984134). 9.00

Racing News (34947). 9.30 Aerobics - Oz

Style (38251). 10.00 Boring - Big Fight

Countdown (89473), 10,30 Spanish Foot-ball (10812), 12,00 Aerobics - Oz Style

(14183), 12.30 Boxing - Big Fight Count-down (49367), 1.00 European Tour Golf

(8/6950), 5.00 Futbol Mundel (6560). 5.30 What a Weekend (936), 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (5/386), 7.00 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (3096). 7.30 European

Tour Golf (719562). 10.00 Sky Sports Cen-

tre (59:83) \*11.00 Bosing - Big Fight Count-down (33:57), \*11.30 Hold the Back Page (72454), 12.30 Sky Sports Centre (96351).

by Simon Hewett.

(92.4-94.6MHz FM )

RADIO 4

**6.00** Today.

11.30 Jazz Century

tralian ensemble Elision, directed

10.00 Hear and Now. Verity

9.40 Postscript. Five commis-

the history of Baroque music

reaves (barrione), BBC National

Suite No 2; Silete Venti; Concerto

PROVIDED THAT he basn't been David Constantine, about the (right) should be supplying some Royal Charter off the Anglesey coast in 1859. Constantine has the tragedy following hard on the heels of a prayer by the vicar of an isolated community for a radio broadcast, in aid of Comic momentous occurrence that will drive his flock back to him. Needless to say, he can't cope with what he bargained for



9.00 NEWS; Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Serial: The Pleasures of the Table.

DOMENIC CAVENDISH

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour, 11.00 NEWS; Sharks and Seaga due cori No 1 in 8 flat. 8.25 Handel in the Strand, Vivaldi ulls - A Summer with Sussex. (R) 11.30 Surrry Side Up. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Puzzle Panel 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Family Affair. 3.00 NEWS; Changing Places.

3.30 Shoreines 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 NEWS: Bookclub. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM sioned poems blending words and 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Sunday Format.

sound. 5: 'Peter Reading: Marfan'. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7:15 Front Row. Francine Stock chairs the arts programme. 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern, An environmental drama by Tim Jackson. With lan Pepperell, Kelley Hunter and Rachel Atkins (20/30). world, derived from ancient Egypt-8.00 NEWS; Any Questions?. Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Thatcham, Berks, by panellists including Lord Jenkins; the Rt Hon John Redwood MP; and Glenys 8.45 Letter from America. Alistair

> 9.00 NEWS; The Friday Play: Fisher of Men. By David Constantine. Told partly in verse, this is the story of the terrible wreck of the Royal Charter on the rocks of An-

SATELLITE AND CABLE

by The French Connection II

(11.45pm), a rare example of

an equally impressive sequel.

In this tough thriller, directed

by John Frankenheimer. Dovle

pursues a Mr Big (Fernando

Rey) to Marseilles. Here, in a

memorable scene, he is forced to

undergo cold turkey after being

hooked on drugs by the villains.

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (4214003), 7,30

(5378926), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre

(9370473), 9.00 Tight Lines (2415386).

Sky Sports Centre (2029265), 7.45 Flacing News (8492560), 8.15 What a Weekend

10.00 Ford Golf USA (1249744, 12.00 The Rugby Club (1242831), 1.00 Ice Hockey

2844560, 3.30 Boding - Big Fight Count-down (5863639), 4.00 Trans World Sport (3211251), 5.00 The Rugby Club (5109367).

6.00 Moto-plus (3958003) 6.30 Extreme Saling (5968283) 7.00 Galette World Sport Special (5100096) 7.30 International Foot-

ball England U15 v Republic of Ireland U15 (2725386), 9.30 Boxing - Big Fight Count-down (1243560), 10.00 Ford Golf USA

(3231015), 12.00 Cycling (2399394), 12.30

International Football England U15 vs Re-public of Ireland U15 (8100987). 2.30 Sky

Sports Centre (7010481), 3.30 Golf USA (9127348), 5.30 - 6.00 Saling (2390023).

11.30 Futures in Sport (92454270), 12.00 Transworld Sport (19649638), 1.00 Fish

ritoris Football Scrapbook (23802473).

TV: Tight Lines (19658386). 2.00 Bobby

3.30 Survival of the Fittest (14139560).

4.00 Footbell League Review (92444893). 5.00 Gillette World Sport Special

(27208102), 5.30 Fastrax (14138831), 6.00

SKY SPORTS 3

JAMES RAMPTON

PICK OF THE DAY

THERE HAVE been few finer car-chase sequence in which

screen cops than Popeye Doyle Doyle pursues an overhead

in The French Connection Subway train. This is followed

Cooke with another slice of Ameri-

glessy in 1859, and the devastating effect this has on the isolated community of Moelfre and its vicar, the Rev Roose Hughes, With John Oowen and loan Meredith. Director David Hunter. McLeod and Dawn McCormack. Written and directed by Jeremy Weller. See Pick of the Day.

10.00 The World Tonight. With Robin Lustig. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Ernest Hemingway Centenary - The Sun Also Rises, John Sharian reads Hemingway's acclaimed novel of the Lost Generation of the 20s 11-00 NEWS; Late Tackle. Eleanor

Oldroyd and quests with a look at the week's sports agenda. 11.30 Sport in the Movies. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Golf Dreams,

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 Leisure Update. 5.56 · 6.00 Weather.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz ) 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship. 12.00 - 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast 11.30 - 6.00 Parliament RADIO 5 LIVE

(693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell.

7.30 US PGA Golf Tour (66812), 8.30 Ski

Biathlon World Cup (52102), 11.30 Racing Line (37473), 12.00 Snowboarding (47021).

12.30 Slathlon World Cup (38873), 2.00

(27096). 5.00 Alpine Sking Women's Night

(60299). 8.00 Alpine Skiling Women's Night

Tennis ATP Tour (73763), 4,00 Signo

Stellom (4873), 6.00 Terms ATP Tour

Statom (631386), 8,45 Termis (7615015), 10,00 Termis ATP Tour (98229), 11,30

10.00 Ternis ATP Tour (98229), 11.30 Equestrianism (67522), 12.30 Close.

7.00 Crossroads (8738183), 7.38 Neigh-

(3230580), 8.30 The Bill (3465299), 9.00 The Bill (3449251), 9.30 When the Boat

Comes in (5262454), 10.30 Phoda (3478763), 11.00 Dallas (4292631), 11.55

Neighbours (75482164), 12.25 EastEnders

(2134218), 1.00 Juliet Bravo (1706299), 2.00

(3644387), 4,30 Rhoda (1173473), 5,00 All

Creenures Great and Small (4384724), 6.00

Dynasty (1719763), 7.00 The Cornedy Alternative; Ever Decreasing Circles (7956270).

7.40 The Cornecty Alternative: Dads Army (4324998), 8.20 The Cornecty Alternative:

Dallas (7025522). 2.55 The Bill (1037893). 3.25 The Bill (1858742). 3.55 EastEnders

bours (6802251), 7,55 EastEnders

Jumping World Cup (43893), 10.00

12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive.

7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsraght. Alan Green and his studio guests discuss the week's sporting issues and look ahead to the weekend's fixtures. Plus updates and second-nalf commentary on Bristol Rovers vs Fulham in Division Two. 10.00 Late Night Live. Insight and comment on the day's big issues with Brian Hayes. Including Papertalk. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 News. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 1.00 Up All Night.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

(100.0-101.9MHz FM ) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8,00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Con-certo. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight, 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. Debbie Wiseman: Conversation for Orchestra. Richard Rodney Bennett: Partita, David Matthews: Burnham Wick (first London performance). Beethoven: Coriolan Overture; Symphony No 8 in F. Richard Strauss: Horn Concerto No 2 in E flat. David Pyatt (horn), Britten Sinfonia/Nicholas Cleobury 11.00 Alan Mann, 2.00 Concerto 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM ) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4,00 Harriet Scott. 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 - 6.00 Steve Power.

**WORLD SERVICE RADIO** 

(198kHz LW ) 1.00 The World Today. 1.30 Meridian (Books), 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 The World Today. 4.30 Weekend. 5.00 The World Today. 5.30 - 6.00 My Century.

TALK RADIO 6.00 David Banks and Nick Ferran. 9.00 Scott Chisholm and Salty James. 12.00 Motoring. 1.00 Anna Raeburn. 3.00 OK to Talk. 5.00 The SportZone. 8.00 Nicky Home's Access All Areas, 10.00 Dave Berrett. 2.00 - 6.00 Mike Dickin.

The Brittes Empire (2555541), 9,00 The

Thin Blue Line (1258454), 9.40 Harry En-

field and Chums (6047893). 10.20 Ruby

Wax Meets... Bill Cosby and Fran Dresche

(2028541). 11.00 The Bill (3099034). 11.30

Bill (2437270). **12.00** Dr Who Omnibus (3068394). **1.45** Blake's Seven (70677226).

6.00 Tiny and Crew (79617580), 6.20 10

and the Gang (98627473), 6.45 Philbert the

plus 2 (48058893). **6.40** Greedysaurus

Frog (96826744). 6.50 Polke Dot Shorts

(986)4909). 7.00 Practical Parenting

(1568367). 7.30 Callou (6088831). 7.35

ing (9081725). 8.00 Barney and Friends

(9091102), 8,25 Babaloos (1480541), 8,30 Tiny Tales (3265522), 8,35 Tiny and Crew

(8639589), 9.00 Special Babies (8316926).

9.30 The Roseanne Show - Highlights (7296812). 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show

(9376541). 3.00 Living Room (6495299).

(4195560). 8.50 Practical Parenting

Run Alert (7986789) 7.55 Practical Paract.

(3493676). 7,05 Professor Bubble

3.00 - 7.00 Shopping (8196684).

## INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

### **CHESS** JON SPEELMAN

GARY KASPAROV completed a truly celestial performance at Linares on Wednesday with a long, hard grind against Veselin Topalov's King's Indian Defence in which he eventnally won a piece but at the cost of running out of pawns.

The inevitable draw brought him to 10.5-14, way ahead of Kiramnik and Anand - who caught up by beating Michael Adams in the last round -8. Leko 6.5. Ivanchuk and Topalov 6. and Adams and Svidler 5.5.

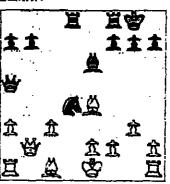
Hard on the heels of his superb performance at Wijk aan Zee in January, this further triumph reemphasises Kasparov's position as the world's absolute number one. Kramnik and Anand will have been pleased to fight their way so far clear of the rest but are currently far in his wake - even though Kramnik in individual games against the man is the one player who displays absolutely no inferiority complex.

Of the others. Leko, bottom rated at a mere 2,694, will presumably be fairly pleased. The others must be less happy, particularly poor Michael Adams who led after four rounds but seemed to suffer severe Kf1 (or 28 Ke3 Qg3 mate) 28 Blc3 aftershocks after experiencing earthquake Kasparov in round five. The ever temperamental Vassily

wanchuk played abysmally in the first half but recovered well in the second, losing to Kasparov but winning the vintage "Ivanchuk game" below, in the penultimate round. The position after 6 Nc3 is well

known, but with a black knight on f6 rather than c6. Instead this was very unusual and Topalov immediately had to solve difficult problems at the board. 8 Bd2 may be an improvement 11 Qb3 dxc4

since if 8 ...dxc4 9 a3 Bxc3 10 Nd6+! 12 Qxc4 e5 Kf8 11 Bxc3 looks rather good 13 Nd6 Bc6



though \$ ...d4 9 Net Bxd2+ 10 Qxd2 Qxd2+ 11 Nxd2 Ke7 looks quite reasonable for Black

9 Nxc3 d4 10 b4 Nxb4 11 axb4 Qxa1 12 Nb5 was conceivable. though this has been played at least once before and no doubt Ivanehuk was more than ready. With 14 ...e4!. Ivanehuk smashed the position open before White could castle. Perhaps Topalov should have tried 15 Bxe4, but it is repulsive.

In the diagram the beautifully the matic 18 ... Nxe2!! ripped White apart. At the end White is muted after 26 fxe4 Bg4+ 27 Kf2 Qxfg + 28

### White: Veselin Topalov Black: Vassily Ivanehuk

English Opening 1 NB c5 14 Qd3 e4! 2 c4 Nc6 15 Nxe4 Nxe4 3 d4 exd4 16 Bac4 Rad8 4 Nxd4 e6 17 Oct Nd4 5 ⊈3 Bb4+ 18 Ob2 (see 6 Nc3 Qa5 diagram) Nxc2!! 7 Ndb5 d5 19 Kxe2 Rfe8 8 a3?! Bxc3+ 20 Qb4 Qh5+ 9 bxc3 Nf6 21 B G 22 g4 Qh3 10 Bg2 0-0 23 gx/5 Bx/5

24 Qc4+ Kh8

25 Rel Rxel+0-1

## BRIDGE

SOUTH'S WELL-INTENTIONED bidding strategy on this deal seemed to have worked out badly when North took charge and landed the partnership in a distinctly poor slam. Graced with a favourable lead, however, declarer found all of the missing high cards in East's hand and this led him to an unusual end position.

North opened with a conventional Two Clubs and South decided to respond Two Hearts. By giving a positive in this suit, rather than jump to Three Diamonds or lose time and space by choosing a negative Two Diamonds, he hoped to show both of his suits at a convenient level. The drawbacks of became apparent when North launched into a Blackwood 4 notrumps and, hearing of no aces opposite, still continued to Six Hearts. Although quietly hopeful, East passed and West led ♦10 against the slam.

Declarer's main hope clearly lay in finding the queen of hearts establishing a long spade for a club discard. He won the lead in hand, preserving A for a later entry, and tried the two top trumps without success. Then he cashed the

**◆**A K 1053 VAK6 0 A 2 **♣**K Q 10 West East **+**37 **◆**0984 **774** ♥Q 10 9 01096 0543 **4**397653 ♣A84 South **4**62 V18532 OKQJ87 **#**2

Game all; dealer North

showing such a bad suit first ace and king of spades and ruffed a spade to find the suit 4-2. Next came a diamond to the are and another snade ruff. Now the only way of reaching the table was by ruffing a diamond. After this, the last spade was led for the club discard.

Still not out of the wood, declarer followed with \$\,\phi\\$ from the table. East covered with his ace and South ruffed. Now it was easy although East held the only trump still out, a winning diamond allowed \$10 to be discarded. East could ruff but now had to concede trick 13 to dummy's 4Q.

### Cycling (14135744), **6.30** Inside the PGA Tour (14126096), **7.00** Max Power 1.30 World Wrestling Federation Raw 9524676), 10.50 Maury Povich (3923454) (67597). 3-30 Sky Sports Centre (70042). 11.40 The Hest is On (23380676), 12.10 doubleton. Then, if that did not 4.30 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (24955), 5.00 - 6.00 Max Power (92481). (33956909), 8.00 Worldwide Puriby Through the Keyhole (2)825473), 12.40 Rescue 911 (94650706), 1.10 Beyond Belief work, there was still the chance of (33969473), 10.00 World Wrestling Federation Rew (92454657), 12,00 Close Fact or Fiction (39911812). 1.40 Maury Powich (1120947). 2.30 Special Bables SKY SPORTS 2

3.50 Michael Cole (4785015), 4.40 Through the Keyhola (59)90231). 5.20 The Heat is On (15899183). 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (6277183). 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show (1938589), 7.05 Rescue 911 147890151, 7.35 Animal Rescue (4067102) 8.00 LA Law (2521763), 9.00 Films: A Kidnapping in the Family (1996) (2591522) 11.00 Sex Files II (7550270), 12.0 Close.

9.00 WCW Nitro on TNT (23438522) 11.35 WCW Thunder (99337096), 1.15 The Fearless Vampire Killers (1967) (91398668). 3.15 The Karate Killers (1967) (13821400). 5.00 Close. PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

7.00 Jenny (1638). 7.30 Grace Under Fire (7305). 8.00 Ellen (9706). 8.30 Spir City (9893), 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (29454), 9.30 Whose Line is it Anyway? (50473). **10.00 Film:** Jabberwocky (1977) (43034). **12.00** Late Night with David Letterman (57110). 1.00 Taxi (28972), 1,30 Frontine (48023), 2,00 Dr Ketz (30619), 2,30 Tibs and Fibs (46226), 3,00 Nightstand (21868), 3,30 Abbott & Costello (33706). 4.00 Close.

## REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

SBC1 N RELAND

SC1 SCOTLAND 

BBC1 Lendon except: 6.30

Islas Today (299).

MGLIA

3 Cariton except: 12.20 Angla

A and Weather (7365522). 12.55

registed Street (9083867). 1.30 Home
of Away (2576034). 1.55 The Jarry
pringer Show (6585198). 3.30 TITN News
sections (4891251). 3.25 Angla News
retwo Track (102). 6.00 Angla News
65). 11.20 Angla News and Weather
(120). 11.20 Angla News and Weather
(121). 11.20 Angla News and Weather
(123). 11.30 Wondarful (10156893).
1.30 Lealry in Concert (295955). Ha

2.05 ClubaVision (2047868), 2.50 The Haunted Fishtank (8768023), 3.20 Short Story Cinema (122)6226), 3,50 Trisha (9242752), **4.50** ITV Nightscrean (43067329) **5.00** Coronation St (86684).

CENTRAL
As Carfton except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (7395522), 12.55
Home and Away (4844678), 2.40 Wish
You Ware Here...? (5655218), 5.30 Surprise Gardeners (102), 5.00 Central
News at Six (265), 11.20 Central News
and Weather (751251), 11.30 Late Tackle
(541541), 3.55 Jobfinder (5577313), 3.20
Asian Five (3442706). Àsian Éye (3442706).

HTV WALES
As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44669812), 12.45 HTV Nows (4157454), 12.55 Wish You Were Hera...? (9063387), 1.30 Home and Away (35776084), 1.55 The Jerry Springer Stow (958596), 3.10 ITN News Headines (4891251), 3.15 HTV News (4890522), 5.30 Quiz Challenge (102), 6.00 HTV News (265), 11.20 HTV News (751251), 11.30 Wonderful You (56863), 12.30 ITV at the Reading Festival (92348), 1.30 Leahy in Concert (2351955). (92348). 1.30 Leahy in Concert (236)955). 2.05 Clube/vision (2047868). 2.50 The Haunted Fishtank (8768023). 3.20 Short

(9242/52), **4.50** ITV Nightscreen (43067329), **5.00** Coronation St (86684). HTV WEST

As HTV Water except: 12.55 Gel-aways (9063367). 5.30 Sportsweek (102). MERIDIAN

me Heating Festival (5344). 2.50 Lesty in Concert (295/955). 2.50 ClubaVision (2047/968): 2.50 The Haunt-ed Fishtank (8768023). 3.20 Short Story Cinema (122/928). 3.50 Tisha (5242752). 4.50 TV Nightscreen (43067329). 5.00 Freescreen (66684).

Story Cinema (12216226). 3.50 Trisha

MERIDIAN
As Carition except: 10.30 This
Morning (44669812). 12.15 Meridian
News and Westher (4157454). 12.55
Shortland Street (9063367). 1.30 Home
and Away (35778034). 1.55 The Jerry
Springer Show (9585196). 3.10 TN
News Headlines (4891251). 3.15 Meridian
News and Westher (4890522). 5.00
Home and Away (4928). 5.28 The Listings (7012788). 5.30 Streetwise (102).
6.00 Meridian Tonight (265). 11.30
Wonderful You (56883). 12.30 TV at
the Reading Festival (92348). 1.30
Lealy in Concert (2951955). 2.05

WESTCOUNTRY As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44669812), 12.15 Westcountry News (457454), 12.27 Smail Talk, Big Talk (7303541), 12.55 Westcountry Lunchtime Live (4644676), 3.15 West-country News (4890522), 5.30 West-country News (4890522), 5.30 West-country Weekend (102), 6.00 Westcountry Live (265), 11.20 West-country News (751261), 11.20 Film: Str Crazy (30218), 1.30 Leahy in Concert (295)555), 2.05 ChibeVision (2047868), 2.59 The Haumted Fishtank (6768023).

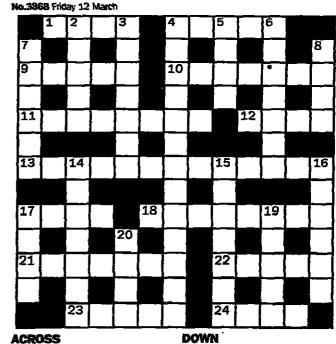
(250555), 205 Claim and Fishtank (6768023). 3.20 Short Story Cinema (12216226). 3.50 Tifsha (9242752). 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (43067329). 5.00 Corona-YORKSHIRE YORKSHIRE
As Cariton except: 10.30 This
Morning (44689812): 12.15 Calendar
News and Weather (4157454): 12.30
News; Weather (4636857): 12.55 Home
and Away (4644878): 2.10 Emmerdale
(56555218): 5.30 Tonight (102): 5.00
Calendar (265): 11.20 Calendar News
and Weather (751251): 11.30 Wonderful You (541541).

As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North East News and Weather (4157454), 5.30

North East Toright (55386). 11.20 North

As Channel 4 except: 6.00 Sesame Street (88937164), 9.00 Ysgo-ton/Schools (28343164), 12.00 Home Improvement (971154)), 12.30 Sesame Street (26946385), 1.00 Planed Plant Street (26946365). 1.00 Planed Pfant (6795368). 1.30 Travelog Traks (54863251). 1.40 Film: Angels One Five" (79755473). 4.30 Dishes (6724695). 5.00 Planed Plant (90216909). 5.30 Countdown (67348763). 6.00 Newyddion (83564096). 6.40 Heno (86054299). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (90229473). 7.30 Newyddion (87225812). 8.00 Cefn Gwlad (90205893). 8.30 Y Clwb Rygbi (90224826). 9.00 Pawb a'i Fam (37476334). 10.00 Snobisider (72781366). (90224929), 9.00 Pawb at Farn (3478034), 10.00 Brookside (7278386), 10.35 Frasier (35886589), 11.05 So Graham Norton (83873473), 11.45 Celebrity Deeth Match (30076726), 12.35 TFI Friday (99986058), 1.35 4 Later: The Ru Paul Show (39786459), 2.10 4 Later: Late Toon - Planet Apathy (95653898), 2.15 The Mod Squad (90608226), 3.15 4 Later: Vida (51851665), 3.45 Film: The Face of Pu Marichu (31779503), 5.25 Close.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD



Cost of journey (4) Antelope (5) Courageous (5) 10 Bloom (7) 11 Commonplace (8)

12 Flat-bottomed boat (4) 13 Rich fish stew (13) 17 Baby carriage (4) 18 Gather together (8) 21 Inspect (7) 22 Oily fruit (5) 23 Bring to bear (5)

24 Level (4)

Grant (5) Everlasting (7) Discomfiture (13) Acknowledge (4) Talk about (7) Take up (6) Leave out (4) lenorani (7) Flower (7) 16 Small hole (6) 17 Quarry (4) 19 Billiard lable covering (5)

Solution to vestorday's Couries Consumed: ACROSS: 1 Chanter, 5 Clear (Chanticker), 8 Ersse, 9 Mansion, 10 Success, 11 E-mail, 12 Beyond, 14 Street, 17 Actor, 19 Chancel, 22 Lumbago, 23 Turm, 24 Extra. 25 Lucated, DOWN: 1 Chess, 2 Anarchy, 3 Theme, 4 Remiss, 5 Concept, 6 Erica, 7 Ringlet, 12 Braille, 13 Nirvana, 15 Except, 16 School, 18 Tempt, 20 Artic, 21 Lined.

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## ROBERT HANKS TELEVISION REVIEW

THERE IS NO such thing as pure science: science is ays tainted by money. It night's Horlzon (BBC2) costensibly about

If our the ground.)
But Nasa swiftly realised it they had shot themselves the foot: \$8nn wasn't going to nearly enough. Apart from whing else, it turned out that pace station of any size did have a sufficiently large wity field to disrupt the progravity experiments it were the main practical tiflication for building thing in the first place.

1992, with the deadline for launch two years away, the ginal \$8bn had all gone on ginal \$8bn had all gone on

And as the costs kept growing — you began to see where the phrase "astronomically expensive" came from — the reasons for building the thing kept shrinking. The main point of microgravity experiments was to grow larger, purer protein crystals than could be produced on Earth. These would be far easier to analyse, and hence would help in the design of new drugs. But as the project dragged on, crystal-growing techniques improved to the point where microgravity began to look irrelevant.

Another just free from was

FUNDRAISER OF THE DAY

American attempts to build a manned space station:

out, as the budget rocketed skywards and the space station stayed resolutely sarthbound, it turned into a story of cash and politics.

The project began in 1884 when, piqued by Soviet auccesses in space, President Reagan amounced that he ans asking Nasn to put a space tation into orbit within 10 ears. Budget meetings were eld, to which Nasa brought long models of the station and anchers for the station and auchers for the station and thout a murnur. (You onder if anybody else caught to this trick – if, say, the integon chiefs of staff uild roll up to the Oval Office in a couple of buckets plastic soldiers and a note-controlled tank, in hope of getting a decent of the ground.)

3ut Nasa swifth — ""

1. Jut Nasa swifth — ""

Z N 

There wasn't a moral to this, just a slowly burgeoning sense of wonder at the monstrous extravegance of it all. I suppose you could take it as a fable of the awfulness of modern technology, in which case you would be much happier with Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age (BBC2), in which Dibnah travels the country looking at boilers, steam looms and, this week, mining gear. It's a rum programme, full of little historical facts uninterned 

rkings are visible and imprehensible. A couple of the leks ago, announcing the ries' website, Dibnah said: a technology ' But you could tell san it

In didn't mean it.

Tales of Tools (BBC2) is bout the very simplest kinds of schnology: the saw, the needle and, this week, scissors. Talking about his relationship with his tools was Monty Park, a barber whose celebrity clients have included John Major and Douglas Fairbanks Jnr; this seemed to be enough glainour to satisfy Mr Park. The last of a long line of barbers, Mr Parks described himself as "the Last of the Mohlcans". I couldn't help thinking: wouldn't "Last of the Short, Back and Sides" make more sense?

COMIC RELIEF (7pm BBC), night, Another hectic night of fundralsing, with the cream of British comedy talent lending (one assumes) their services for free. Highlights include the incongruous sight of Johnny Depp in an episode of The Vicar of Dibley, Alan Partridge (Steve Coogan) helping Radio Norwich's Red Nose Day efforts (this is on BBC2, by the way) and Rowan Alkinson playing Dr Who. That might be a canny move from the ever canny Alkinson, and I wouldn't be surprised if he were invited to step full-time into the role. Chris Evans also brings a special edition of TFI Friday to BBC1, where his unsurprising guests include muckers Paul Gascoigne and Mick Huckmall.

TRUST ME, I'M A DOCTOR (8pm BBC2, nght) If you fancy a break from all the hilarity over on BBC1, imagil bunch of maggots feasting on a woman's leg ulcer. It se that they are being reintroduced to British hospitals for first time since the 1940s as a result of the emergence (antibiotic-resistant "super-bugs". Apparently, maggots wounds by eating dead tissue, liquifying it first and the sucking it up like soup. Also in tonight's programme, the a report on the misuse of electroconvulsive therany. wh

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attention-seeker. Catherine (played by Jeanne Moreau, right), is probably the sort of woman a chap ought to avoid in real life 'at one point she jumps into the River Seine hecause Jules and Jim's discussion of Strindberg does not include her) – but she makes a terrific catalyst for François Truffaut's nouvelle rugue classic. Jules (Oskar Werner) and Jim (Henri Serre) are writers and best friends, and their menage à trois with Moreau moves through the artistic ferment of post-First World War Europe. Funny, evocative and dazzlingly directed. Set the video.

ID)

MEDICAL SHOW OF THE D

BBC

**9.00 Business Breakfast** (96386). **7.00** News (T) (3 **9.00** Kliroy (S) (T) (2651831). **9.45** The Variessa S (S) (T) (719893). **10.58** News; Regional News; We (T) (3100657). **11.00** Charige That (S) (3110034). **11.55** N Cen't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (3180893). **11.55** N Regional News; Weather (T) (7068831). **12.00** Call Bluff (S) (82134). **12.30** Wipcout (S) (4641589). **12.** The Weather Show (S) (T) (53785589). **1.00** News; Weather (T) (35102). **1,30** Regional News and Weather (T) (35102). **1,30** Regional News (S) (T) (3517522).

Children's BBC: Playdays (R) (S) (6504164).
3.45 Spider (R) (S) (5168763). 3.50 Smart on the Road (S) (T) (9880676). 4.05 Red Nose Day 1999 – the Record Breaker (S) (4198305).

Neighbours. Libby learns the truth about Blanca, and Karl considers working overseas (S) (7) (139270).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (947).

7.00

Weather (T) (50/5).

11.00 Comic Relief: With Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer:
11.05 Graham Norton 11.10 Have ( Got Buzzcocks All Over. With Angus Deayton and Nick Hancock 11.20 Where Are They Now? 11.25 Tantrums and Tlaras – the Out-Take, Backstage with Elion John 11.30 TFI/Comic Relief. Chris Evans's guests include Paul Gascotigne and Mick Hucknall. 12.30 Blast from the Past with Ben Elton

9.00 Ne Do Comic Relief: Dr Who. Rowan Alkinson stars as the Doctor, with Jonethan Pryce, Julia Sewalha and the Daleks 8.40 Paul Bradley – Rwanda. Former EastEnders star in Africa 8.20 Harry Emfield and Special Chums 8.30 French and Saunders 8.40 Boyzone. The Irish popsters sing this year's Comic Hellef single 8.50 At Work in the UK 8.55 Peter Snow Goes Tonto. The total so far (Videoplus Code for 7-9pm 23367).

9.30 Comic Relief: 9.35 Dr Who. More from Rowan Alkinson's timelord 9.45 Record-Breaking Broadcast. Simon Mayo's 37 hours on air 9.46 The Victoria Wood Special – Wetty Hairithrop Investigates 9.55 Rwanda Odyssey (Videoplus code for 9.30-11.30pm 12473).

BBC2

12.30 Working Lunch (36270). 1.00 Johnson and Friends (R) (S) (68004164). 1.10 The History Hour (S) (905083). 2.10 Awash with Colour (S) (56528164). 2.40 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (3372454). 2.45 Metch of Their Day (S) (T) (475928). 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (4862980). 3.30 The Village (R) (S) (9548612). 3.55 Kaye (S) (9557831). 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S) (T) (6243676). 4.55 Eather (S) (T) (5228657). 5.30 Today's the Day (S) (T) (676).

**6.00 The Simpsons.** Sideshow Bob is released from the Springfield Penitentiary (R) (S) (T) (275034).

7.30 Country House. Toff docu-soap. The Tavistocks' plan for a new golf course in woodlands on the estate causes new tension with the villagers (S) (T) (725).

8.30 Gardeners' World. Stephen Lacey meets garden designer to the stars, Jay Griffiths, In Los Angeles (S) (T) (5893). 9.00 Comic Relief: Alan Partridge Live! Steve Coogan continues the fun over on BBC2 (S) (T) (3657).

9.30 Timewatch: The Roman Way of War. Another chance to see this film taking the carvings on Trajan's Column in Rome as a snapshot of Roman military techniques at the time of the wars between the Emperor Trajan and the people of Dacia (R) (548218).

10.20 Several Cereful Owners. A Messerschmitt KR200 bubble car and its former owners (R) (S) (911763). 10.30 Newenight. With Kirsty Wark (T) (848096).

12.10 IGIOINE Jules et Jim (François Truffaut 1961 Fr).
Truffaut's masterplace set around the time of the
First World War. See Film of the Day, below (597232). 11.15 Births, Marriages and Deaths (R) (S) (T) (479201).

1.50 Later with Joots Holland. Guests are Simply Red, Smashing Pumpkins, Tricky, PJ Harvey, Sizzla and Leon Russell (Then Weatherview) (R) (2022771). To 3am.

131725), **7.50**--Mania (S)
). **8.50** Pingu
). **9.10** See
lime (S)

6.55 Top of the Pops. Gall Porter presents chart-topp Boyzone, with their Comic Relief single, Cher, Vengaboys, Skurnk Anansle, Whitney Houston, E-17, Stereophonics and Blur (S) (T) (342454). chart-toppe

8.00 IGIUDE Truet Me, I'm a Doctor. It must be bad enough having a leg uicer -- but can you imagine treating it with maggots? See Medical Show of the Day, below (S) (T) (6386).

8.30 You've home vid large aut

9.00 Who W present so? Will charity? his ever everyon wants to be a Millionaire? Chris Tarrani ents a special hour-long "Comic Relief edition". How Will contestants be donating their winnings to tity? Or will Tarrant be giving away five per cent of wening's earnings? Perhaps they just meen yone will be wearing a red rose (S) (T) (1947).

11.30 Night I 11.20 Londo LITO. This new series about London starts with an w with Duwayne Brooks, who was with Stephen ce on the night that he was killed (54/54). n Tonight (1) (751251).

12.35 FIM The Lookalike (Gary Nelson 1990 US). Melissa kinkman stare as a mother who is being hounded ouble of her dead daughter (S) (T) (387077).

6.25 Robot Wars: the Grudge Matches. BBC2 seems to be spirring out this series – and no wonder. With more than three and a half million viewers, it's among the channels top 10 most-watched programmes (5) (1) (250725).

8.00 Carol \
Rooms (
visits ne

Been Framed! Lisa Riley and more "viewers" deos (in which case, the programme must have a dence in America) (R) (S) (T) (2947).

versy, wore from this confessional series in which bees from Vanessa and Trisha expand on the marital yal and sexual treachery they have expensenced (or each. The last programme looks at how infidelity at the future of the relationships involved. Meet BbJ, till feels hurt by her partners infidelity 18 years usely, and Rachel and Joa, whose lives have been ed by his cheating in the past (S) (4034).

Vision (S) (2036752). To 3am.

V Carlton

9.25 Trisha (S) (T) (8054218). 10.30 This Morning (T) (57612589). 12.20 Your Shout (7395522). 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News; Weather (T) (4636652). 12.55 London Today (T) (4644676). 1.26 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (4209270). 2.10 Home and Away (S) (T) (56555218). 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (S) (T) (7813706).

3.40 ITV N **sws Headlines** (T) (5182270).

3928). · (S) (T) (4522).

3.20 Children Timbucto (9870299) It Up (T) (

6.00 Londo n Tonight. Regional news update for the and the South-East (T) (265).

6.30 ITV E ening News) Weather (T) (367)

7.30 Corons new fututhat she 7.00 Bruce Foreyth's Play Your Cards Right.
Brucle Bonuses, brand-new cars and cash prizes
all on the turn of a card (S) (T) (4164).

ation Street. Nick and Leanne face up to a ure with mixed emotions, and Natalle decides has had enough of Lorraine (S) (T) (251).

Vorderman's Better Nomes. The Changing duplicate with Carol Vorderman who, this week, eighbours in Newbury, Berkehire (T) (3812).

Weather (T) (882560).

6.00 QMTV (5822589)

en's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (4811015). 3.30 too (5166676). 3.35 Anlimai Stories (R) (S) 39). 3.45 Giggly Bitzi (T) (9883763). 4.00 Pump ) (6342947). 4.35 Comin' Atcha (S) (T) (3106763).

5.30 Dream Ticket. Reports on Madrid, the Orient Express, and the Island of Gozo, off the coast of Malta (102). and Away (S) (T) (4928).

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather, Including 7.30pm (5) (1) (354299).

8,00 7.55 The Outlaw. The last of the animated series based on the cartoon strip by Michael Heath (T) (238183).

Return to the Lost Gardens of Heilgan. Annabel Turner returns to see how the sundial garden she transformed in the first series te faring (T) (1454).

8.30 Brookside. Oh, here ws go. Ryan shows his darker, side (S) (T) (7779).

9.00 Friends. The first of a two-part story in which Joey takes a liking to Phoebe's twin sister, Ursula (R) (S) (T) (6725).

9.00

9.30 Boyz Unlimited. Sitcom about the birth and rise of a boy bend. Things look bad for the band as Nicky turns to God and Gareth to Elton John records (S) (T) (4102).

10.00 Frasier. "Merry Christmas Mrs Moskowitz". A woman sets up a blind date between Frasier and her daughter because she's convinced he's Jewish (5) (T) (97893).

10.30 So Graham Norton (T) (842812).

Access All Areas: Freak Out (T) (522676), 11.40 Celebrity Death Match (S) (806980), 12.30 4 Later: The RuPaul Show (T) (53313), 1.05 4 Later: Late Toon – Planet Apathy (1271619), 1.10 4 Later: The Mod Squad (3120503), 2.10 Vids (2161508).

11.45 IIII Delta of Venus (Zalman King 1995 US). Fans of literary 1930s erolloist Anais Nin should probably give this glossy place of soft porn a wide berth. Nins critics will probably think it a rather fitting monument (6020086).

1.40 III(1) Near Mrs (Baz Taylor 1991 Fr/US). Comedy starring Judge Reinhold as a bigamist (5) (4216771).

TILLI Hey, I'm Alive (Lawrence Schiller 1975 US). Two people survive an air crash (52018787). To 4.35am.

THERISION GUIDE BY GEIMRD GILJERT

10.50 Poltergeist: the Legacy (R) (S) (T) (49:0541).

2,40 LIM The Face of Fu Manchu (Don Sharp 1985 US). Sax Rohmer's yellow peril returns to the screen in the guise of Christopher Lee in this atmospheric fantasy. Nigel Green co-stars as Nayland Smith of Scotland Yard (285752). To 4.20am.

3.20

FILM OF THE DAY

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (25725)

Channel

Channel

THE FRIDAY REVIEW
The Independent 12 March 1999

9.00 Channel 4 Schools: Off Linits (8920819), 9.25
Schools at Work (8972929), 9.30 Eurekal (88(8183),
9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8914638), 10.00 The Complete
Cosmos (5135454), 10.10 TWA (901298), 10.25 1798
and After (9024763), 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone
(9354367), 11.00 The Technology Programme
(3228098), 11.15 Stage One (3241847),

(S) (T) (8096947). 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2511473). 7.38 Wimzle's House (R) (4590102). 8.00 Havakazoo (R) (S) (2713725). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (2712056). 9.00 Nancy Lam (R) (S) (T) (5517003). 8.26 Russell Grant's Postcards (437274). 8.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (8887283). 10.20 Sunsel Beach (S) (T) (3568386). 11.10 Leeza (S) (7016675). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (2716872). 12.30 Family Affairs (S) (T) (194034). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S) (T) (6095218). 1.30 The Roseanne Show (S) (183305). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (9072034). 2.30 Good Atternoon (S) (1670522).

Powerhouse (T) (9218). 12.00 Sesame Street (T) (96184). 12.30 Bewitched (R) (T) (38638). 1.00 Pet Rescue (S) (T) (28812). 1.30 Australia Wild (R) (37908).

2.05 IIII Edge of Eternity (Donald Siegel 1959 US). Siegel rarely made a film that has no points of interest, and this low-budget western has a keen eye for the landscape of the Grand Canyon. There's also an unusual shoot-out finale as a deputy sheriff pursues a kichapping kiter (6956386).

Collectors' Let (T) (473). 4.00 Fifteen to One (R) (S) (T) (980). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3105034). 4.55 Ricki Lake (S) (T) (5213725). 5.30 Pet Resoue (S) (T) (744).

**Sunset Beach.** Gregory takes Amile upstains to Trey's nursery, where he reveals that he is the blackmaller. Get a fan to explain, if you can shake them out their trence (S) (T) (3643812).

VELLET Bridesmaids (Lifa Garrett 1989 US). Soapy yern about the relationships and tensions between four women who are reunited for the first time in 20 years when they are bridesmaids at a friend's wedding. The wonderfully named Shelley Hack "stars" (9847818).

**8.00 TFI Friday.** I had no idea that Andy Williams was still with us, but appearently he is, and he's one of Chris Evans's guests. He also gets to croon a number, along with tonight's other live acts, Echo and the Bunnymen and Travis (S) (46657).

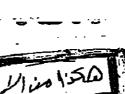
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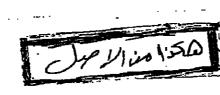
7.00 5 News (S) (T) (9043522)

7.30 Natural Passions. Documentary fooking at the work of vet David Cooper, who is in charge of transferring rhinos, and lions between African game parks (S) (T) (2396251).

8.00 Cops In the Sky. Police, Camera, Action-style Import that looks at the work of the American serial police. What is the chance that we get the OJ Simpson helicopter-chase footage all over agein? (S) (8407541).

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Family Affairs. Pele gets his comeuppance (S) (T) (2307367).

100 Per Cent. The game show without a host (S) (2318015).